

Iran President dismissed from military command

From Tony Alloway, Tehran, June 10

Staff Reporter
The President of Iran, Bani-Sadr, was dismissed from his military command yesterday, the newspaper said. The dismissal was announced in a statement issued by the Revolutionary Guards, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, which is the main military force of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

President Bani-Sadr of Iran was tonight dismissed as Commander-in-Chief of the Iranian forces fighting in the Gulf war. The decision by Ayatollah Khomeini, the supreme leader, was announced late in the evening. According to the official Pars news agency the ayatollah's office issued a terse statement addressing the military joint staffs.

It said: "The ayatollah has told the joint staffs that by this statement they are informed that Mr Bani-Sadr is dismissed from the post of Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces". It gave no reason for the dismissal and no mention was made of Mr Bani-Sadr's position as President, although rumours that he would resign this post as a result were quick to spread.

When the announcement was made Mr Bani-Sadr was believed to be inspecting the western war front in Kermanshah. In the last few days his position and authority have come under unrelenting and increasing pressure from his fundamentalist opponents. To-night's decision was not entirely unexpected.

Owen woos rejected Labour moderates

By Our Political Correspondent

With many more "moderate" Labour MPs facing the prospect of deselection by their left-dominated constituency general management committees, Dr David Owen, Mr of Devonport and one of the joint leaders of the Social Democratic Party, last night pleaded with them to make up their minds swiftly to join the new party.

Some Labour MPs who face the threat of deselection have already indicated that they will stand as independent or Parliamentary Labour candidates in their present constituencies. Dr Owen told an SDP meeting at Hayes: "We cannot agree to give a clear run to those who do not stand as Labour Party candidates who feel unable to join the Social Democrats."

French wealth tax to create jobs

The French Cabinet agreed that higher taxes on the rich would be used to create more jobs and provide better pensions. The tax package to finance the programme will be presented next month to the new National Assembly.

"We have no intention of allowing some new amorphous political group to grow up between the Social Democratic Party and the Labour Party and they will be challenged by either a Social Democrat or a Liberal candidate, whichever is most likely to win."

Paroled abroad

Prisoners released on parole are being allowed to work abroad, against Parole Board guidelines, because of lack of jobs in Britain. The board's chairman says: "If a man is to be employed rather than unemployed, we think that is a good thing."

The time was coming when "those good social democrats who remain in the Labour Party" and there were a number of them, must make the choice. They must make it on the basis of principle, not expediency, on policies, not personalities.

Interest rate plea

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of industry urged the Government not to raise the Minimum Lending Rate as a reaction to the pound's fall on foreign exchange markets.

He said: "A few years ago everybody was saying we must have much more leisure, everybody is working too much. Now that everybody has got so much leisure it may be involuntary, but they have got it - they are complaining they are unemployed."

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Guns blaze as eight burst from Belfast jail

From Richard Ford Belfast

Eight suspected IRA remand prisoners burst out of the Crumlin Road jail in Belfast yesterday in a hail of gunfire. Roadblocks were set up immediately throughout Northern Ireland.

The men ran to freedom after a fierce gun battle outside the prison yesterday afternoon. First, they overpowered unarmed prison officers. Then some of them disguised themselves in the officers' uniforms.

Three fired handguns as they broke out of the jail at visit time. Prison officers in the yard outside tried to stop the fleeing men, but were injured in the fighting. One was crushed over the head and another's hand was injured. Both were treated in hospital.

Outside the prison policemen and the escapees fired at each other as the men ran to two waiting cars. Extra decoy cars sped off at the same time, causing maximum confusion.

The policemen on duty reported their fire for fear of hitting those escapees dressed in prison officers' uniforms. One of the fleeing men left a briefcase outside the prison. A prison officer carried it into the prison yard where an Army bomb disposal man made two controlled explosions before saying it was safe.

That caused even more confusion. The escapees, who broke out at 4.12 pm, were also helped by the busy traffic in the city.

Later, shots were fired at a car in north Belfast which was suspected to have been used in the escape. Two other cars, also believed to have been used by the gang, were found in the Ulster Flats area of the city riddled with bullet holes. One car had its back window shattered.

None of the men, however, was thought to have been hit in all the shooting. The escape was made at about the time prisoners were being brought back into the jail from the court across the road. They came along a tunnel, escorted by unarmed prison officers, which passes under Crumlin Road.

At first it was thought the men had been in court and had overpowered the prison officers, as they came into the prison, but later reports suggested that they had not been in court yesterday. The escape was said to have begun in several rooms where prisoners can see visitors.

A witness said: "I heard a whole lot of noise going on inside the yard. The next thing I heard was someone shouting 'get down, get down'. There was a scuffle and a lot of shouting. I heard the gates being banged and the next thing there was a whole lot of shooting going on."

In a brief statement, the Northern Ireland Office said there had been an escape from the prison by eight men and that three of them had produced handguns. "During the course of this two prison officers were injured. The circumstances are being investigated."

The police named the escapees as: Paul Patrick Magee, aged 32, of Andersonstown; Robert Joseph Campbell, aged 28, of Ballymurphy; Michael Anthony McKee, aged 25, of New Bansey; Angelo Fusco, aged 24, of Andersonstown; Anthony Gerard Sloan, aged 25, of Twinnbrook; Gerard Sloan, aged 28, of Twinnbrook; Joseph Patrick Docherty, aged 26, of North Queen Street, all Belfast; and Michael James Ryan, aged 25, of South Derry.

They face charges relating to firearms and murder. AFI were to have been sentenced tomorrow. Ulster politicians called for an inquiry into security at the prison. Mr James Moynihan, leader of the Ulster Unionists, said he believed the escape had been an inside job.

Mr Humphrey Atkins, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, will make a statement about the escape after the Commons debate in the Commons today.

Coe record

Sebastian Coe, of Britain, broke his world 800 metres record with a time of 1 minute 47.2 seconds at an athletics meeting in Florence. His previous record time was 1 minute 42.33 seconds, set in Oslo in 1979.



Maria Mehmedagi, who died in hospital after being severely battered. Her family doctor thought a hospital conference on her condition was a waste of time.

The errors that allowed a baby girl to be battered to death

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Maria Mehmedagi, aged 11 months, died from severe battering after social workers, doctors and police failed to act on their suspicions of child abuse, according to the report of an independent inquiry, published yesterday. Obvious danger signals were missed and there were serious failures of communication from the start.

St Thomas's Hospital, London, failed to inform the family doctor or the health visitor that the baby had been beaten by her mother. The inquiry also found that the mother had discharged herself early against medical advice. Both factors, the report says, are accepted as common in child abuse cases.

Two doctors at King's College Hospital, London, who were on duty when the baby was brought to the hospital for a stomach blockage at four weeks, suspected child abuse but did not inform the family doctor, community health or social services.

The family doctor did not pass on his own suspicions and the two hospitals involved did not communicate with each other. The inquiry also found that the mother had been in two London boroughs failed to communicate with each other when the girl was placed in foster care.

The report notes that of 23 social factors listed as possible danger signals in a local child abuse booklet, at least a dozen were apparent in this case. It calls for adequate and regular training for everyone likely to be involved so that they can recognize signs of child abuse and take the appropriate action.

The case was complicated by a prolonged strike by social workers which severely limited the resources available to protect the baby. Had it not taken place, the chances of survival would have been enhanced, the report says.

The report implies that the child's life might have been even shorter but for the persistence of a health visitor standing in for a colleague who was on leave. On her own initiative, she visited the family and found the baby bruised on her face, head and shoulder.

The health visitor rang the family doctor, who refused to visit, but suggested that the baby be brought to the evening surgery. The health visitor then rang a senior clinical medical officer, who also declined to take action.

Finally the health visitor got in touch with a partner of the family doctor, who responded immediately, visited the home, and arranged for the baby to be admitted to hospital the same day.

She was admitted to St Thomas's Hospital on January 17, 1978, aged seven weeks, and found to have a fractured collar bone, irreversible damage to the tissues around her left eye and a fractured skull.

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Air strike flattened the Iraqi plant in seconds

By Our Foreign Staff

The remains of the Iraqi nuclear plant hit by last Sunday's Israeli air strike will have to be pulled down and the plant totally rebuilt, an eyewitness of the raid said yesterday.

M. Jacques-Rimbaud, an employee of a French import-export firm working at Tammuz, the site of the plant, said in Paris the accuracy of the attack was astonishing.

"The main building has completely collapsed, the atomic reactor was hit and the nuclear shelter has disappeared," he said. One bomb apparently failed to explode and was preventing repair work.

M. Rimbaud said he was not at the site when the aircraft attacked, but in Baghdad, nearby. "I clearly saw four planes make two passes over the plant and drop what I thought were four bombs. I don't think the raid lasted more than 10 seconds."

M. Rimbaud, who arrived at the airport on a flight from Baghdad, said that as the Israeli aircraft made their final pass, Iraqi ground batteries opened up and continued firing for 15 minutes. "There were tracer bullets and anti-aircraft missiles were also fired," he said.

M. Rimbaud also said that so far as he knew, there was no danger of contamination. The timing of the attack was well chosen because nearly all the French technicians had finished work and left.

Another witness, M. Jean-Francois Masciola, an electrician, said that although the site was surrounded by military defences and anti-aircraft emplacements, the Iraqis were apparently caught unaware.

M. Damien Chaussepied, a French technician, was killed during the attack and M. Rimbaud said he thought that all the French working at Tammuz - about 150 in all - would return to France soon.

A fellow passenger of the Frenchman on the flight into Paris was Brigadier General Abdu Jawad Najeeb Amin, of Iraq, who is a technology expert. He declined to comment on the raid.

In Cairo President Sadat of Egypt today received a message from Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, in which he outlined his reasons for ordering the air strike.

Continued on back page, col 6

Racism 'sets back West Indians'

By Diana Geddes Education Correspondent

Suggestions that the West Indian culture is in part to blame for the poor performance of West Indian children in school have been dropped from the report of the committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities, which the Government hopes to publish next Wednesday.

Early drafts of the committee's report suggested that two key issues, racism and home background, lay at the heart of the apparent underachievement of West Indian pupils.

In the final report, however, racism, with "negative teacher attitudes" and an inappropriate curriculum, is the only principal causal factor put forward.

The committee, three of whose members resigned after the Government dismissed its chairman, Mr Anthony Rampton, meets today.

The Government is to announce within the next two weeks the names of seven new members.

Why do young blacks fail? page 11

Kania survives party challenge

From Richard Davy and Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, June 10

The Polish leadership tonight survived the most serious challenge it has yet faced. After two days of confused and often bitter debate in which the party leaders came under attack, the Central Committee decided not to expose the Politburo to a vote.

Mr Stanislaw Kania, the party secretary, had himself earlier suggested that the committee vote on each Politburo member and remove anyone who did not get at least 50 per cent approval.

However, during a brief interval in the proceedings, the Regional secretaries told Mr Kania that they were against his idea. Mr Kania then asked the Central Committee to decide. Seventeen were in favour of a vote, 54 were against and the other 72 abstained.

The leadership was saved largely by pressure from the grass roots organizations of the party and the regional secretaries, many of whom are new men. Messages and resolutions of support for the leadership had been pouring in from all over the country.

Left to itself the Central Committee would probably have voted against Mr Kania, but most of its members no longer represent anyone and do not expect to be chosen as delegates to the party congress in July.

Over the past two days it became clear that it would be perilous for such an unrepresentative body to oust the leadership. The rest of the party in its present mood would not have accepted their replacements.

According to unconfirmed reports, Mr Stanislaw Kania, one of Mr Kania's main rivals, soon realized this and made it clear that he was not a candidate. He would have regarded him as having been brought to power by Soviet pressure and this would have deprived him of any genuine authority.

Nevertheless the crisis which began last Friday with a tough warning letter from the Soviet Central Committee, has been a severe shock to the party.

It is assumed that the leadership, having survived the challenge, will now have to introduce firmer policies. There will be restraints on the press and efforts to gain more control over the election campaign for the party congress so that fewer of the Russians call the "healthy forces" are swept out of power.

It is hoped that the Soviet letter may have a sobering effect on the country. This evening it was for the first time read to the Poles on television.

Mr Kania was attacked personally today by Mr Tadeusz Grabski, who accused him of indecision and lack of clarity. Mr Grabski said the role of the party had been weakened because the Politburo had not been acting as a coherent body for several months.

"Many decisions," he claimed, "were coming from outside. He disagreed with the decision to recognize the Rural Solidarity union and hated other decisions which he had not been informed of in advance."

Mr Grabski singled out Mr Josef Klasa, the Central Committee member in charge of the media as a special target. He said that in its own decisions he had asked for the dismissal of Mr Klasa, who enjoys a reputation of being an ardent champion of liberalization.

But Mr Grabski's personal attack on Mr Kania was strongly rejected by another member of the Politburo, Mr Kazimierz Barcikowski.

He applauded Mr Kania's report on the state of the party in the light of the letter and warning from the Soviet Central Committee.

Mr Barcikowski said the programme outlined by Mr Kania was not one of surrender but one of fight. The strength of the party was its unity and the grave social and economic conditions the Government was facing would not be affected by personnel changes.

Rezhnev letter text, page 6

Dead couple's son arrested at Olympic star's home

The student son of a retired naval officer, Lieutenant-Commander Gilbert Alder, and Mrs Ann Alder, who was charged yesterday with the murders, was arrested at the home of Duncan, the Olympic gold medalist swimmer.

The swimmer and his mother and step-father, Air Vice-Marshal William Crawford-Crompton, are friends of the Alder family. It is believed that after the discovery of the bodies of his parents, Andrew Nicholas Alder, aged 21, and his sister Elizabeth, aged 19, stayed at Mr Goodhue's home at Yapton, West Sussex.

Still, Mr Goodhue's manager, said: "Duncan and his family were very close to the Alders. Duncan and Andrew had known each other for a long time."

Mr Goodhue was not at his parents' home at the time of the arrest, but returned there on Tuesday to comfort his mother.

Mr Alder, who is studying biology at Hatfield Polytechnic, Herfordshire, and who lives nearby at Lowbell Lane, London Colney, appeared before magistrates at Chichester, West Sussex, yesterday. He was remanded in custody for six days.

There is no application for bail and reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Lieutenant-Commander Alder, aged 56, and his wife, aged 46, were found dead from gunshot wounds at their home in the West Sussex village of Oving on Sunday.

After the hearing Mr Ian Peterkin, the Alder family solicitor, said that Mr Alder's sister, Elizabeth, aged 19, and their maternal grandmother had begged him to make the following statement on their behalf: "The last two days have been a harrowing experience for us. This development of today have increased our grief and sorrow. The thought and help of our friends at this time are very much appreciated. In all the circumstances we feel it would not be right or proper for us to make any further comment."

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Thatcher told by Murray to honour agreement

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, made a personal appeal to the Prime Minister yesterday to reverse Cabinet policy on the Civil Service pay dispute.

In a letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher he urged her to restore public confidence in the vital importance of honouring agreements by taking urgent practical steps to respect and abide by the terms of the undertakings previously given to civil servants.

The text of the letter was released as relations within the Civil Service deteriorated yet further.

There is a risk that flights into and out of Prestwick airport, Scotland, could be affected today by a 12-hour official stoppage of 25 maintenance engineers who man the air traffic control centre there, if it breaks down there will be no one available to repair it.

In his letter, Mr Murray expressed grave concern over recent developments in the dispute and asked her to reconsider urgently the Government's rigid stance over negotiations with the Civil Service unions.

"My concern is not prompted by any wish to single out civil servants for special or discriminatory treatment in any way," he wrote. "Indeed, my anxiety is in large measure stimulated by the far reaching and damaging effects which your government's actions could have on the conduct of

industrial relations more generally."

He recalled that for 30 years there had been widespread recognition of the need to supplement bargaining in the Civil Service with agreed, independent mechanisms for fair comparisons with the private sector.

The Government's actions in scrapping these mechanisms and refusing arbitration, if not rapidly reversed, "will cause long-term damage to industrial and indeed more generally."

The Civil Service Department in a letter to the unions said: "As a civil servant cannot be absent without authority and at the same time on annual leave, all annual leave authorized for staff who strike is immediately cancelled."

In Hull, about 110 staff at four employment offices walked out on strike in protest at the threatened suspension of civil servants for refusing to attend emergency procedures to ensure that the unemployed get their benefit.

Learned drivers whose first provisional licenses are being held up by the Civil Service dispute will be able to drive without them from about the end of July.

Mr Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport last night tabled a special clause to his Transport Bill which will allow about 200,000 people to start to drive, so long as they have posted their application forms.



On the penultimate day of the general election campaign, on Tuesday, Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic touring Carrigaline, co Cork.

Haughey version of Maze fast pact

From Christopher Thomas, Dublin

Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, said yesterday that an agreed settlement between prisoners at the Maze prison and the Northern Ireland prison authorities ended the 53-day fast by seven men shortly before Christmas.

His claim is in sharp contrast to the British Government's insistence that there was no deal. "It ended on the basis of certain statements made by the prison authorities to the prisoners," Mr Haughey said. There had been an agreed settlement.

His remarks came on the last day of electioneering before the republic's general election. He made his comments almost as an aside at his final election press conference; they seemed accidental rather than calculated.

Nevertheless, his claim has

introduced, however mildly, the first anti-British flavour into the three-week campaign by the three main parties. He went on to say that the republic's Government had played an important part in settling the fast. "After that settlement most people were optimistic about the situation, but unfortunately it went backwards, again."

He made a clear reference to the informal prison regime adopted at Portlaoise prison in the republic, where IRA men have a large measure of freedom to run their own lives. His obvious message was that something similar ought to be operated at the Maze.

"We have a satisfactory flexible approach," he said. "We have pointed out to the British on a number of occasions what we do here. There are changes that could be made

to make the system more acceptable and more humanitarian."

Mr Haughey's remarks about an agreed settlement reflect the consistent claims of the prisoners that there was a verbal understanding about the introduction of a more liberal prison regime at the Maze. The British Government's standpoint is that the prisoners were told merely what facilities and privileges were already available to conforming inmates.

The H-blocks affair has not been an important election issue. The first results of the election will be known tomorrow, but it may be early on Saturday before a definite picture emerges. The opinion polls indicate a close finish.

Leading article, page 17

Normal work pledge ends Times dispute

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Reporter

The closure threat facing Times Newspapers was lifted yesterday as local representatives of the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades agreed to work normally on The Sunday Times this weekend.

Mr Rupert Murdoch, owner of the papers, had made it clear that he would shut both The Times and The Sunday Times if publishing room members of the union repeated disruptive action, which cost 400,000 copies of The Sunday Times last weekend.

Sogat branch and chapel (office branch) officers agreed yesterday to withdraw their threat to hold a mandatory chapel meeting from 6 pm on Saturday after an 80-minute meeting with Times management at Grays Inn Road yesterday afternoon.

More than 300 Sogat members walked out in the early hours of Sunday in pursuit of a differential pay claim, with the result that most of the main print for London and the South East was not distributed.

Talks on the claim between management and both local and national union officials are to reopen next week under the terms of a joint statement agreed yesterday which commits the Sogat chapel to observing the company's agreed dispute procedure.

The Sogat grievance arose as a result of an offer made to

members of the National Society of Operative Printers Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa) on The Sunday Times. It was intended to resolve a long standing claim over differentials with machine room members of the National Graphical Association.

The offer, which is expected to be put to Natsopa members later this week, provides for 36 brake bands, including nine who work in The Sunday Times publishing room, 87.5 per cent of the NGA machine roomers' rate of £106.31 for a shift. A further 313 machine room members of Natsopa would receive 80 per cent of the Sogat chapel officials reacted to the offer, which they claimed should not have been made without consultations with their own union, by claiming increases similar to those £5.51 offered to the brake bands.

The joint agreement signed yesterday by unions and management says: "The union guarantees that full normal working and full compliance with the Procedures for the Avoidance of Disputes Agreement will now prevail."

Mr Gerald Long, managing director of Times Newspapers, said last night that he was "extremely pleased" that good sense had prevailed. He added: "We do not see it as a victory but if we had not got a sensible agreement it would have been a defeat for everybody."

Sale room

Monroe's pink bra goes back to US

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Sotheby's had an outstanding success with the sale of a pink mesh brassiere yesterday: estimated at £10,000, the hammer fell at £520. The demand was generated by nostalgia for its former owner, Miss Marilyn Monroe, the film star. Included with the bra was a beaded and silver metal bag and a pair of white evening gloves. The lot was bought by Mr Stanley Marsh III, of Toad Hall, Amarillo, Texas, as a present for his wife.

Sotheby's had also under-estimated the Monroe appeal on a "diagonally-pleated, cream chiffon evening dress, estimated at £200 to £300, it sold for £950 to Philip Green who runs the Discount Dress Shop in Conduit Street, London.

The dress was made in the 1960s for Miss Monroe by Mme de Rachelle who ran a theatrical dressmaking business in Greek Street, Soho. She had consigned both the dress and the bra for sale history—or at least Sotheby's catalogue—does not relate how she came by the bra. Perhaps Miss Monroe left it behind after a fitting.

The sale of costume and textiles at Sotheby's, Belgrave, totalled £45,309 with 12 per cent unsold. The Victoria and Albert Museum paid the top price in the sale at £1,300 (estimate £800-£1,000) for a very finely embroidered, pale blue silk kimono dated the early nineteenth century, and the Netherlands Museum of Costume in the Hague paid £1,050 (estimate £500-£700) for a Fortuny "Delphos" dress trimmed with Venetian beads and the fra for a couturier around 1914.

Sotheby's in Bond Street were selling modern British pictures and sculpture, achieving a total of £282,088 with 11 per cent unsold. The press and the public were keen on the sale of the Munglins' horse pictures, which were again underlined with a top price of £30,000 (estimate £20,000-£30,000) for "The Steeplechase Start," paid by Richard Green, the London dealer.

Sotheby's also purchased a romantic portrait of Nelly Gray, a beautiful pipey, in a rich red, silk dress at £15,000 (estimate £14,000-£18,000) on behalf of the Munglins Museum in Dedham, Essex. Another notable price was the £19,000 (estimate £10,000-£15,000) paid by Anthony D'Ottavio for Charles Ginner's "Flask Walk, Ramstead," an auction record for the artist. A Ginner study of "A munitions filling factory at Bedford" of 1916 made a £14,000-£15,000 (estimate £1,000-£1,500).

In general, pictures of quality ran beyond estimate and lesser works attracted little or no bidding, irrespective of the artist. Stanley Spencer's notable "The Railway End, 1927" made £8,000 (estimate £3,000-£4,000).

At Christie's Venetian books from the collection of John A. Saks, a former director of the famous Saks, Fifth Avenue, dress shop, brought £23,665 with 6 per cent unsold. They had been sent to London for sale on account of their obvious European interest. Nevertheless, the top price was paid by Breslauer, of New York, at £9,000 (estimate £1,500-£2,400) for the 1745 illustrated edition of Tasso's Gerusalemme Liberata.

Christie's silver sale made £159,190 with 18 per cent unsold.

SUTCLIFFE CONTEMPT RULED OUT

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, said yesterday that he was not prepared to take legal action against any newspaper, television or radio station for contempt of court over reporting the arrest of Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper.

Legal proceedings were not necessary to remind editors of their responsibilities. There was a public debate after Mr Sutcliffe's arrest and interest in the Contempt of Court Bill had also led to a better understanding of the need to restrict discussion of crimes.

Sir Michael was replying to Mr Edward Gardiner, Conservative MP for South Fylde.

OVERSEAS SELLING PRICES

Australia 100 to 101, Canada 100 to 101, Hong Kong 100 to 101, India 100 to 101, Japan 100 to 101, New Zealand 100 to 101, South Africa 100 to 101, Switzerland 100 to 101, Taiwan 100 to 101, Thailand 100 to 101, United Kingdom 100 to 101, USA 100 to 101.

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Town hall staffs will strike against Heseltine cuts

From David Felton, Labour Reporter, Blackpool

The biggest union representing town hall staff set course yesterday for a confrontation with the Government over cuts being demanded in local council spending.

The National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) pledged to take industrial action against councils who agreed to the £450m spending cuts demanded last week by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

Delegates at the union's conference in Blackpool yesterday unanimously agreed an emergency motion calling on the traditionally non-political union to join forces with Labour groups on councils and with other unions in the fight against the Government's cuts.

Mr Heseltine announced last week that unless "profligate" councils were prepared to cut their spending he would consider introducing legislation to enforce reductions.

The industrial action is likely to take the form of one-day strikes similar to the stoppage earlier this week by 2,000 white collar staff at the Lothian

Regional Council in Scotland which has been ordered by the Government to cut its spending by 10 per cent.

Delegates were told by Mr William Gill, for the union executive, that the call for industrial action would be the leadership's "number one priority" in the coming weeks. He said the Government was making "vicious attacks on the public services and insidious erosions of local government powers."

Yesterday's decision means that the union's 780,000 members are committed to "a more active involvement in the political campaign against the Government's present strategy". The conference also called on the union leadership to coordinate the campaign with the TUC, Labour Party and local Labour groups to oppose the cuts.

Mr James White, of the union's Scottish district council, said the cuts being demanded of the Lothian council would lead to a loss of more than 4,000 jobs because under Scottish law the council was not able to raise a supplementary rate.

Race plane lands in field

A twin-engine Cessna 310 competing in the Paris-New York-Paris transatlantic air rally ran out of fuel yesterday and was forced to land in a pasture in the Aran Islands just off the Galway coast of Ireland.

Mr Bruno Koppeler, and M Jean-Pierre Reber, the Swiss pilots, were unhurt. An air and sea search was continuing yesterday for another two competitors in the race, M Jacques Masserot and M Olivier Recco, whose Piper

Comanche was spotted by radar over the Hebrides.

Organisers lost radio contact with the single-engine aircraft on Tuesday after it left Gander, Newfoundland, for the return. The men on board are both understood to be French airline pilots, and the aircraft is known to be equipped with a liferaft. The race started last Sunday.

The Barra lifeboat has been launched, and all shipping in the area alerted.

Warrington seat lures 50 Tories

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

More than 50 prospective candidates have applied to fight the Warrington by-election for the Conservatives. The local Conservative association is to meet tonight to draw up a short list of applicants. A candidate will be adopted on Wednesday.

Mr Roy Jenkins is expected to be confirmed as the Social Democrat candidate tonight when he meets the local party in Warrington. The Labour candidate is to be chosen on June 21 from a list that could contain 60 names.

The Conservative Party said yesterday that it intended to fight a vigorous campaign. It has been Warrington, QC, who has been Warrington, QC, since 1961, had a majority for Labour of more than 10,000 over his Conservative challenger at the last general election. He has been appointed a circuit court judge.

The social democrats named their first two official election candidates yesterday (the Press Association reports).

Mr David Shand, aged 38, a local government officer, will fight a by-election for a seat on Ormskirk, District Council, County Durham, on July 2. Mr James Meade, 45, a shipyard shop steward, is contesting a vacancy in the Walkergate ward on Newcastle City Council on July 16.

GRIMSBY MP RESELECTED

Mr Austin Mitchell, the Labour MP for Grimsby, who claimed he was on a left-wing "hit list", has been chosen to fight the seat in the next General Election. He was supported by all branches of the local party.

Mr Eric Ogden and Mr John Saver, who were among 150 MPs who signed the "Backpackers' Bill", with whom Mr Mitchell expressed concern at changes in the party's constitution, failed to be re-elected by their constituency parties after their names were listed in a left-wing journal.

MP pledges to move Ulster writ

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

If the Government delays the by-election in Fermanagh and South Tyrone beyond the normal three-month period after the death of Robert Sands, the IRA hunger striker, Mr Dwydd Thomas, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, will move in the House of Commons for the writ to be issued.

He has made that clear in a statement to his constituency committee at Dolgellau in which he repiles to what he calls the "ill-considered and deliberately misleading criticisms made against his attack on the Government for its handling of the hunger-strike issue."

Even though the Government may use its majority to vote down his motion, Mr Thomas said he would continue with his intended course of action. "I believe that it would be a very dangerous precedent for democracy if the Government were to try to stop an election being held, or stop a candidate being elected, because the Government do not agree with the result."

Mr Iwan Wyn Jones, the chairman of Plaid Cymru, said, however, that he had written to Mr Thomas urging him not to carry out his intention.

Mr Jones added that his disagreement with Mr Thomas was only on the question of tactics. He said he had written to Mr Thomas yesterday that the fact that the democratic system was being brought into question in this way "shows how the whole of our politics has been affected by the violence."

In government quarters yesterday it was confirmed that Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, intends to bring in a short Bill for passage during the present session of Parliament, which will disqualify a convicted criminal who is serving a term of more than a year from membership of the Commons (Philip Webster writes).

The Shadow Cabinet will not support the proposed Bill disqualifying convicted criminals from membership of the Commons (Philip Webster writes).

WILDLIFE BILL CLIMBEDOWN

The Government has withdrawn its proposed amendments to the section of the Wildlife and Countryside Bill dealing with marine reserves (Our Planning Reporter writes).

The amendments would have removed controls on commercial fishing, dredging and the dumping of waste; reduced the seaward extension of reserves from territorial limits to 1,000 metres offshore; and excluded intertidal zones.

NORWICH KEEPS TWO MPs

Norwich City Council yesterday won its fight to keep two MPs. The Boundary Commission agreed to the proposals to retain two Norwich seats, and created a new mid-Norfolk constituency.

Norwich will maintain its MPs for Norwich North and South and the extra seat will give the county six MPs instead of five.

Petrol prices vary by 40p a gallon

By Peter Waymark, Motoring Correspondent

A survey of petrol prices in Britain this week reveals a difference of as much as 40p for a gallon of four star. Prices ranged from 143p a gallon in some city centres to 186p on the island of Colonsay in the Western Isles.

Motorists in the midlands appear to be enjoying some of the cheapest petrol, with prices of 143p a gallon common in towns like Leicester, Nottingham and Northampton. In the Manchester area, where price capping is fierce, petrol is available at 146p.

The cost of sending petrol by sea in 50 gallon drums from Penzance means that motorists on the Isle of Scilly have to pay 185p. Petrol also has to be shipped in drums to Colonsay, where it is sold at an hotel. There are only 35 cars on the island.

Rural filling stations tend to charge higher prices than town sites, partly because they have less competition, but also because of their relatively greater overheads. Rural stations also bear higher transport costs.

Higher than average prices are also charged on motorway service areas.

Typical suburban London prices are between 149p and 150p but on the edge of the capital it is possible to buy four star for 146p. On the other extreme, filling stations in central London and the City are charging as much as 160p.

'Listener' dispute is settled

The Listener and the Radio Times, which have not been published for the past two weeks because of industrial action by journalists, will be back on the newsstands soon.

The BBC said last night that it and the National Union of Journalists had met the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service yesterday and agreed a new offer. The union will recommend its members to return to work. The dispute has been about gradings.

The 55 journalists employed on the two magazines and on the staff magazine Arel as well as on BBC educational publications say they have been negotiating for more pay for seven months. They received a 1979 average salary of £5,000 compared with £9,000 on the rival TV Times.

CLOSED SHOP MOVE BY MPs

Conservative backbenchers have written to the Prime Minister urging her to resist the pressure of other parliamentary business and to include a new measure on curbing the closed shop in the Government's programme for the next session (Our Political Staff writes).

A motion put down by Mr Gerrard Neale, MP for Cornwall North, and backed by Sir Angus Maude, Mr Reg Prentice and Mr Marcus Fox, all former ministers, has prompted confidence among MPs that this will come next session.

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CORRECTION

The report on June 5 of a speech by Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, in which he said he was a believer in public expenditure, should have made clear that he was quoting an extract from a speech by the late Anthony Crosland, then a Labour Cabinet Minister.

CRASH MAN JAILED

A man who caused a car crash that killed his former mistress and her lover was cleared of murder at Northampton Crown Court yesterday. John McClements, of Radley, Oxfordshire, was jailed for 12 months for the manslaughter of Mrs Jennifer Phipps and Mr John Euseley.

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Prisoners on parole go abroad for work

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Prisoners released on parole are being granted permission to work abroad because of lack of jobs in Britain. The absence of proper supervision of the successful applicants who go infringes criteria used by the Parole Board and published yesterday in its annual report.

The report says: "The supervision of a parolee by a probation officer during the parole period is an essential part of the scheme".

Asked which people are given permission, Lord Harris of Greenwich, the board's chairman, told *The Times*: "We look at the circumstances of each case: how he has responded to supervision, whether there is a genuine job offer. We are in the business of rehabilitation. If a man is to be employed rather than unemployed, we think that is a good thing to be."

Lord Harris could not say how many prisoners on parole had been allowed to work abroad but they were "more than a handful". They are believed to be mainly in Western Europe.

The report speaks of "an increase in the number of requests from people on parole to travel abroad in order to take up offers of work". The board recognizes that to grant permission inevitably

interferes with the supervisory aspect of parole."

The report says that where the board thinks the risk to be acceptable, "it is right to take account of the licensee's prospects of rehabilitation. On balance, it is likely that unsupervised employment would be more conducive to this end than supervised unemployment, but the board will continue to consider each case solely on its merits."

Without supervision, however, the board cannot know if the prisoner infringes the terms of his licence and should be recalled to prison. Mr Roy Jenkins, then Home Secretary, assured the Commons in December, 1966, that the power to revoke a licence would be "exercised on the basis of reports reaching the Home Secretary about the prisoner's behaviour, and, in particular, from the supervising probation officer."

While permission is being given to some prisoners to take what the report calls "unsupervised employment" abroad, others, not so lucky, who remain in Britain risk being recalled to prison if they are "out of touch". It was the biggest single reason last year for recall of prisoners serving determinate sentences.

Out of 445 recalled, 214 were for being out of touch and in some cases for other breaches

of licence conditions; and of those, 89 had committed further offences while at large.

The report says that the number of prisoners granted parole in 1980 rose to a level achieved only in 1977, and there had been no rise in the rate of recall to prison: 8.7 per cent of prisoners with a determinate sentence finally recommended for parole.

In 1980 the 5,077 prisoners granted parole represented 50.4 per cent of the cases considered.

The report says that ministers have been invited to consider options designed to effect the earlier referral to the board of higher risk, longer sentence cases.

If the Government implements its idea of an early release scheme for prisoners serving shorter sentences, that could reduce the board's work, leaving extra time to consider more difficult cases.

Report of the Parole Board, 1980 (Stationery Office, 54p).

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, announced in the Commons yesterday that the extension of the tougher regimes pilot project to Foston Hall junior detention centre, Derbyshire (for 14 to 15-year-olds) and Haslar senior detention centre, near Gosport, Hampshire (for 17 to 20-year-olds) will be introduced in September.



Bridging the gap: Police bringing a patient to the Glasgow Royal Infirmary yesterday when ambulances in the city went on the first of their 24-hour lightning strikes.

Scarman appeals for cooperation

By Lucy Hodges

Lord Scarman, chairman of the Brixton riot inquiry, which starts on Monday, appealed for cooperation yesterday. A call from the Brixton Defence Campaign for people to boycott the inquiry would help neither Brixton nor the nation, he said.

There are signs, however, that the call is having some effect. Last night Lambeth Community Relations Council was reconsidering its decision to give evidence.

In a statement published yesterday Lord Scarman said it was not a police inquiry but an inquiry into policing and the immunity against prosecution given to those appearing before the inquiry was as wide as any immunity granted in similar inquiries.

"I have not known it lead to victimisation or to be inadequate as a protection for those who give evidence," he said.

"I also intend that evidence given at hearings of the inquiry will avoid the identification of individuals. Moreover, hearsay evidence will be allowed, so that it will be possible for leaders of the community to give evidence on behalf of others without the risk of the latter being identified."

Third, the issue of identification did not arise in phase two of the inquiry, on the underlying causes of the riot, because Lord Scarman said he intended to conduct that phase on the basis of written statements. He added that he would also meet people from different sections of the Brixton community.

This is the first time Lord Scarman has talked about informal meetings and they are likely to be welcomed. It has been made clear that the inquiry would not hear from Brixton's youths, some of whom were involved in the riot, unless he made such a move.

The youths say they are frightened that if they are identified they will be beaten up by the police.

Lord Scarman also answers critics who have asked what good can come out of the inquiry. He says the inquiry is independent, and there will be no whitewash "but only a conscientious search for the truth and a solution".

The inquiry would give Brixton a chance to be heard nationally and to point the way to the solution.

Lord Scarman said the response from the public so far had been heartening. More than 150 people and organizations have offered to give evidence.

The Brixton Defence Campaign is a body which aims to represent the Brixton community and which last week prepared a long statement on why the inquiry should be boycotted.

Body was hidden under floor

From Our Correspondent Sheffield

Terence Rogerson, aged 26, rebelled against the dominance of Mrs Emily Ball, a widow, aged 72, and killed her.

He hid her body under floorboards at her home, covered it with concrete and pretended she was still alive, continuing to collect her pension.

Mr Rogerson, a South Yorkshire County Council highways surveyor, of Macaulay Crescent, Armthorpe, Doncaster, pleaded guilty yesterday to murdering Mrs Ball of Dore Lane, Bentley, Doncaster.

Mr Justice Mustill at Sheffield Crown Court sentenced him to life imprisonment. Mr Frank Muller, QC, for the Crown, said Mrs Ball was killed in her bedroom last July and buried at the bottom of the stairs.

Mrs Ball seems to have taken a liking to Mr Rogerson and he visited the house nearly every day, doing odd jobs, Mr Muller said. He let people believe he was her grandson.

He tried to suppress the foul smell of the body with fly spray, but neighbours noted the odour and told the police, who went to the house last November.

Mr Rogerson told police she was getting at him and he hit her with a hammer.

Mr Harry Ognall, QC, for the defence, said Mr Rogerson was "a likable, pleasant young man, who panicked".

Rates rising faster than income tax

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

An analysis of local authority rate yields in the last five years shows that rates have risen slightly faster than income tax but only two-thirds as much as value-added tax yields.

The figures are included in rating statistics published yesterday by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

Between 1974-75 and 1979-80, the yield from rates increased from £3,245m to £6,837m, income tax from £10,271m to £20,599m, and VAT from £2,506m to £8,179m.

The accompanying table indicates that while the rate yield has increased by 111 per cent, income tax yield is up by 101 per cent and VAT by 226 per cent over the five-year period.

The statistics show that while domestic ratepayers bear 48.9 per cent of the rate burden throughout England and Wales, the figure for householders in inner London is only 25.9 per cent, compared with 55.4 per cent in the metropolitan districts, 54.3 per cent in English shire districts and 47.3 per cent in Wales.

The final percentage paid by householders is slightly smaller in each case because of domestic rate relief.

Industrial users in inner London pay only 3.1 per cent, and the main burden here is on offices, which provide 37.5 per cent, compared with an overall average of 8.5 per cent. Industry overall pays 10.7 per cent.

—10.4 per cent in outer London, 14.5 per cent in the metropolitan districts, 11.4 per cent in the shire districts and 15.1 per cent in Wales.

The total number of hereditaments in England and Wales at April 1, 1980, was 22.1m. Local authorities sent out 4.1m reminders to pay, and issued just over 1m summonses for non-payment, of which 496,717 led to court hearings and 287,437 led to distress warrants being passed to bailiffs.

On average rates cost 1.6 per cent of the total yield to collect. (Rate Collection Statistics, 1979-80 Actuals, Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, 1, Buckingham Place, London SW1E 6HS; £10.)

INCREASE IN TAXES

	Income	Rates	tax	VAT
1974-75	100	100	100	
1975-76	130	148	138	
1976-77	142	168	150	
1977-78	181	171	189	
1978-79	180	183	193	
1979-80	211	201	226	

King and Thatcher condemn raid

By David Spanier, Richard Owen and Craig Seton

King Khalid of Saudi Arabia had substantive discussions on the Middle East with Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday during his state visit to Britain.

The talks, which lasted an hour, took as their starting point the Israeli attack on the Iraqi nuclear plant and its serious consequences.

The Israeli action is seen by the Saudis as the greatest possible outrage, as King Khalid made clear. The Prime Minister had already made her views known in the Commons and was able to assure the King of Britain's strong condemnation.

Further discussions may be held today between Mr David Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and Prince Sultan, the Saudi Defence Minister, who both attended yesterday's meeting. Prince Saud, the Saudi Foreign Minister, is understood to be in Baghdad for the gathering of Arab foreign ministers.

With Britain taking over the presidency of the European Economic Community next month, the Saudis are concerned that Britain should give a strong lead in pursuing European diplomatic efforts in the Middle East. But until the repercussions of the Israeli

attack have been fully registered in the United Nations and the Middle East, the Europeans may be forced to mark time.

Lord Carrington has been a principal supporter of the European role, as the Saudis appreciate, and is anxious to make a contribution. The EEC is due to take stock of its Middle East efforts at the end of June.

The Downing Street talks were followed by a lunch for about 60 people given in King Khalid's honour by Mrs Thatcher. Among the guests were bankers and industrialists, representatives from Asprey's, the jewellers, the British Falcon Club, the Jockey Club and National Stud and other walks of life likely to be of interest to the Saudis.

The menu was avocado and lobster salad, followed by chicken breast with honey and almonds, and bombe Alaska with black cherries. Red and white wine was served to the British guests, and fruit juice or suetina (sour milk) to the Saudis.

Last night the King attended a reception and banquet at Guildhall where the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe, said it was a source of great pride that the "great

institutions, banks and business houses" of London had been able to take part in Saudi Arabia's thriving economic development.

King Khalid in his reply referred to the visit of his predecessor, King Faisal, to London in 1967 and said that his own visit to what he called "your great metropolis" was yet another step towards reinforcing the strong relationship between Saudi Arabia and Great Britain.

This morning he will leave Buckingham Palace by helicopter and fly to the National Stud at Newmarket for a short visit before lunching at the Jockey Club there.

The Saudis are becoming increasingly interested in horseracing and thoroughbred. The King will be shown the four stallions in residence, Mill Reef, Grundy, Blakeney and Star Appeal, three of them Derby winners.

Two hours after the luncheon, the King will return to Buckingham Palace and tonight he will give a banquet at Claridge's. Tomorrow he will leave Heathrow in his personal Boeing 747.

Court Circular, page 18

Rampton nurse cleared

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

Harry Dexter, a Rampton nurse, who was said to have struck a brain-damaged patient, was cleared by a jury at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Dexter, aged 59, was acquitted of a charge of ill-treating Mr Richard Winnik, aged 27, who is mentally ill and an epileptic.

Mr David Wilcock, for the prosecution, said that Mr Dexter hit Mr Winnik on the

ear in the hospital's teaching unit on February 5, 1979, because he had been cheeky to a remedial teacher.

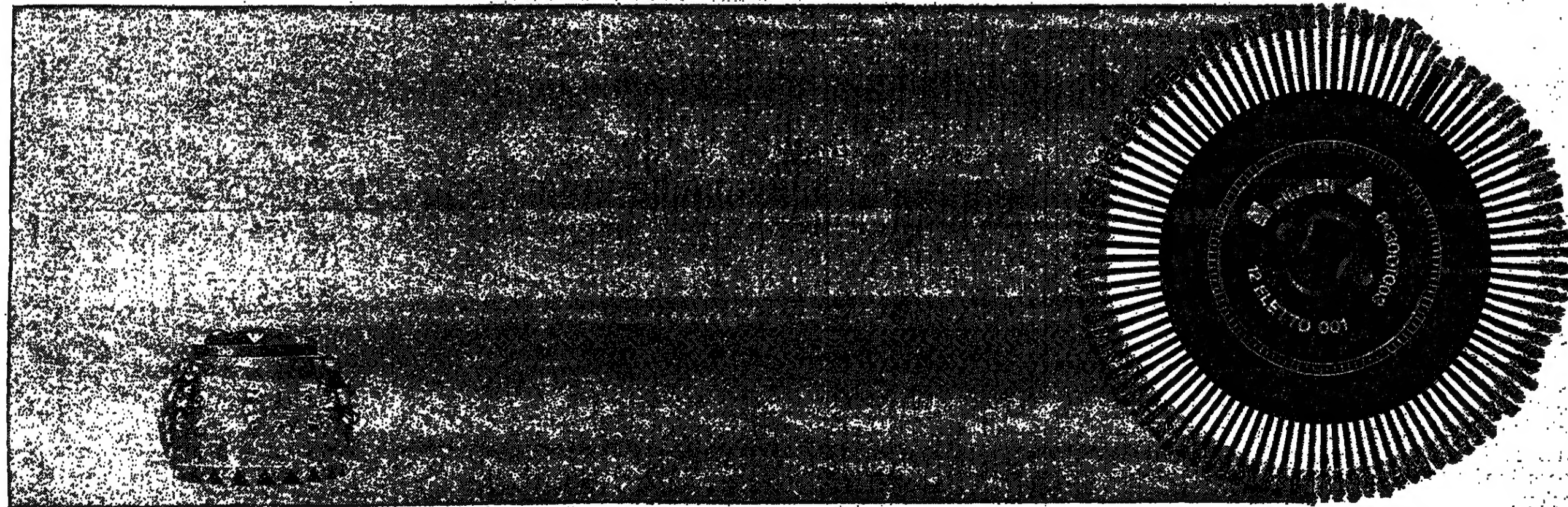
Mr Dexter said he caught the patient by the collar and told him not to be silly. "It was only a trivial incident," he said.

Mr Dexter is the third nurse to be acquitted by courts since a police investigation at the high-security hospital.

NURSES TOLD 6% IS THE LIMIT

Nurses' leaders were told yesterday that no extra money is available to improve their 6 per cent pay offer.

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said higher pay awards for public sector workers, however deserving, could not be paid without cutting essential services. The nursing organisations are to ask their members if they wish to continue negotiating within the 6 per cent cash limit.



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Whitelaw attacks political control of police

From Arthur Osman, Eastbourne

The stage is set for a clash at Eastbourne today between chief constables and Labour councillors anxious to tighten controls on police work. Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, yesterday gave a firm warning about political interference with the police.

Mr Whitelaw told the joint conference of the Association of Chief Police Officers, the Association of County Councils and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities: "I think most people in this country would agree that it is highly desirable that the enforcement of the criminal law should not be subject to political control or influence."

"As Home Secretary I cannot give direction to chief constables on operational matters and neither can police authorities. As practical politicians most of us would not want this power."

"I do not believe the majority of people in this country would welcome or would tolerate the situation in which local or national politicians could direct the police operations or influence decisions on who should be prosecuted for a criminal offence. And, let us be clear, the kind of powers over the police which are being sought in some quarters would make this possible."

"The present constitutional arrangements for the police service are designed to minimise the risk of political control or interference of this kind."

Mr Whitelaw recalled that last year he called for police authorities to see themselves not just as providers of resources but as a means whereby the chief constable could give account of his policing policy to the community's elected representatives.

Stern seeks release from £100m bankruptcy

William George Stern, aged 45, who has been described as the world's biggest bankrupt with debts of more than £100m applied for discharge at London Bankruptcy Court yesterday.

Mr John O'Reilly, the Official Receiver, said Mr Stern went bankrupt in 1978 with debts estimated at £104m. Extra claims had come in and the debts were now estimated at £118,690,524. Mr Stern, of West Heath Avenue, Golders Green, London, was said to have assets of £211,982. Mr O'Reilly said on that basis a nominal dividend could be expected by creditors.

The Receiver said Mr Stern was born in Hungary. He left there in 1944 when the Nazis marched in, and until 1953 lived in Switzerland. He moved to America and became a naturalized American citizen in 1956.

Mr Stern came to London in 1960 after his marriage three years before. He then worked for his wife's stepfather in the



Mr Stern: Home in trust.

Freewater Group of companies. He became joint managing director of the group but left in 1971 to set up his own property development group of nearly 200 associated companies which became known as the Wilstar Group.

The Receiver said Mr Stern gave personal guarantees totalling more than £100m to firms, which lent his group money. At that time his personal assets, other than his interest in the Wilstar Group, did not exceed £200,000. Mr Stern had said the people from whom he was borrowing money knew he did not have the assets to back up his guarantees, but had sought them to insure his commitment to the companies being lent money.

Mr Stern suffered from liquidity problems, and although attempts were made both by his family to avoid bankruptcy, he was eventually declared bankrupt in May, 1978.

The court heard that Mr Stern's home in Golders Green, worth more than £300,000, and the paintings, antiques, and luxurious furnishings in it, are owned by a trust set up by his father. Mr Stern had been a self-employed consultant since the bankruptcy. He earned £12,678 in 1978, £14,728 in 1980, and he estimated he would earn £12,500 this year. His family had also helped with cash gifts of £12,000 in both 1979 and 1980 and £17,000 this year.

Mr O'Reilly revealed that the mortgage on Mr Stern's home of £5,500 a year was paid by a family trust. His household and other expenses came to about £23,400 for himself and six dependants.

Since being made bankrupt Mr Stern had paid £13,150 for creditors. He had offered to pay a further £10,000 a year for three years in support of his discharge application. His family in the United States were also prepared to pay £25,000 so that he could get his discharge.

Three of the largest creditors, the Crown Agents, Keyser Ullman and The First National Bank of Chicago, opposed the discharge. Another creditor, Barclays Bank, was also said to be opposing the discharge and the bank had written to say they regarded Mr Stern's offer to creditors as "derisory".

The hearing was adjourned to July 22.

Suspended sentence for National Theatre actor

Norman Benton, the black actor, was given a six-month suspended prison sentence at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for dishonestly obtaining an airline ticket.

Mr Benton, aged 46, who is the star of the BBC Television series *Empire Road* and who is also appearing at the National Theatre, was in addition fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £500 compensation to a travel firm.

On Tuesday, the jury cleared Mr Benton, of Woodfield Road, King's Heath, Birmingham, of conspiracy to defraud in connection with a cancelled tour of Britain in 1978 by Roy Charles, the jazz singer.

But he was convicted of dishonestly obtaining a first-class air ticket from Los Angeles to London which was intended to

bring Mr Charles's agent to Britain to sign contracts.

Mr Giles Forrester, for the prosecution, said the travel firm had received two worthless cheques amounting to £1,054. Before being sentenced, Mr Benton said from the dock: "It was done with best will in the world and I sincerely regret I ever got involved with it."

His codefendant, Neville Queensgate, South Kensington, Marshall-Corbin, aged 35, of London, was also given a six-month prison sentence, suspended for two years, fined £1,000, and ordered to pay £500 compensation to the travel firm.

He had been acquitted of conspiracy to defraud but convicted of dishonestly obtaining the air ticket.

The judge was told that Mr Benton had seven previous convictions, covering 23 offences.

IN BRIEF

Coffee morning at murder spot

In an attempt to find the killer of Mario Crofts, aged 14, whose body was discovered on Hampshire, the police will serve coffee at the murder scene this cast their minds back.

A woman police officer will respect the girl's last known movements as she set out from her home in Basingstoke Close, Fleet, on her way to orchestra practice at Farnborough, five miles away.

More repairs to M5

The concrete section of the M5 around Taunton, Somerset, is being repaired again because water has undermined the foundations. The same trouble led to six months' reconstruction work costing £15m less than a year ago.

County bans cane

The cane was officially banned in Nottinghamshire children's homes yesterday by the new Labour-controlled county council. The council's Conservative councillors failed to get a corporal punishment retained so that the views of head teachers could be assessed.

Forged banknotes

Shopkeepers, public house managers and club owners have been warned to look for forged £10 notes circulating in the Toxteth district of Liverpool. Five have been found in the past four days.

Body fingerprinted

Fingerprints yesterday identified the mutilated body found beside a railway line in Nottinghamshire, as Mr John Cummings, aged 22, a part-time soldier, of Delaval Road, Forest Hill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He had been travelling by train to an Army camp.

Fire at hospital

Patients had to be moved from part of Rotherham District General Hospital after yesterday's fire swept through a television room. It is thought the fire was caused by a discarded cigarette.

Nudists rejected

After several months of indecision, councillors in Great Yarmouth have rejected a request from the Central Council of British Nudists for a nudist beach at the Norfolk resort.

CID chief suspended

Det Chief Inspector John Drayton, head of the CID at Towersey, Northants, has been suspended on full pay pending an internal inquiry.



Mr Bunyan (left) and Mr Peak in their office: Claim based on Bill of Rights.

British Army illegal, radicals say

By Peter Hennessy

The British Army has been living and working in a condition of illegality for more than 25 years, according to a paper published today by Mr Tony Bunyan and Mr Steve Peak, of State Research, the radical, "whistleblowing", London-based "think tank".

Their claim, based on the Bill of Rights, 1689, is denied by the Ministry of Defence lawyers, who have seen a copy of State Research's June-July bulletin and its background paper entitled *The British Army: 25 Years of Illegality*.

The Bill of Rights, which has never been repealed, states: "The raising or keeping a standing army within the Kingdom in time of peace, unless it be with consent of Parliament is against the law."

Between 1689 and 1881, Parliament authorized the existence of a standing army by passing an annual Mutiny Act. Between 1881 and 1981, the maintenance was sanctioned by an Army Act passed each year.

Mr Bunyan and Mr Peak assert that the Army Act, 1955, the Air Force Act, 1955, and the Naval Discipline Act, 1957, and successive Armed Forces Acts renewed automatically to cover discipline in the services, have failed to grant the explicit annual parliamentary authorization for the existence of a standing army within the Kingdom by the Bill of 1689.

An early motion was tabled at the Commons in 1947, entitled "Need for annual parliamentary approval of standing army". It stands under the name of Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, and carries the signatures of five other Labour members and Mr Dafydd Ellis

of Egham, 1981. The House of Commons has not yet responded to the motion.

State Research Bulletin No. 24, June-July 1981, 9 Poland Street, London W1 (annual subscription £5).

Move to delay fourth TV channel said to be false logic

By Kenneth Gossling

Backbench Conservative MPs who have signed an early day motion calling for the introduction of the fourth television channel to be deferred, were left in no doubt yesterday that the Independent Broadcasting Authority will keep to the present timetable.

In an interview marking his first six months as chairman of the IBA, Lord Thomson of Monifieth said: "Plans are now well advanced to get it on the air in the autumn of 1982. Everything is being done to speed up the process of spending some £40m on the engineering side of things."

"I take the view that those MPs who signed the motion the other day seeking a delay in the channel are really putting forward a proposition that is on its own merits false economy."

It is falsely based as an economic proposition in seeking

to halt what is now beyond the point of no return. Lord Thomson said the argument was that the channel's introduction would lead to a fall in the amount of levy paid by the companies to the Independent Broadcasting Authority, but the launching would in effect be subsidized by the taxpayer.

"This is false logic," he said. "The commitments are all made, and the quicker we start getting a return on that money, the better for everyone concerned."

The Government had recognized during the preparatory period that there was bound to be a reduction in levy income but the basis of all the planning, Lord Thomson said, was that there would be an increase by 1984.

Companies' revenue was holding up well in the recession and this year, allowing for inflation,

Shutdown of gas industry threatened

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Brighton

Union leaders threatened yesterday to shut down the gas industry over a political storm about the proposed "privatisation" of high street gas showrooms. Nearly 50,000 jobs are at risk, it was claimed.

Mr John Edmonds, national industrial officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union, warned the Government that if it implemented a report by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the gas industry, industrial action would follow.

"We have enormous power and on an issue like this we will use it," he said.

A Cabinet committee met in Whitehall yesterday to consider the report, which says that the Gas Corporation's dominant position in the retail market for cooking, fires and water heaters is an imbalance, against the public interest.

Ministers are studying its two recommendations, which are that British Gas should either be banned from selling domestic appliances or face drastic restrictions on sales.

Mr Edmonds told delegates to the GMWU policy conference: "The gas industry faces an enormous threat which could cost us one third of the jobs in the industry, and many more outside."

The corporation sold 1,500,000 appliances every year and the industry believed that private retailers would not be able to match that sales record.

If gas showrooms are banned from selling British Gas appliances, which make gas appliances will have to close," he said.

"That is not just my view. It is what the unions and the managers in the factories tell me."

If a sales ban was imposed the corporation's sales, transport stores and fitting workforce would be decimated. "We estimate that 30,000 jobs would be lost in British Gas, plus 15,000 in appliance and component factories."

Women are falling behind men in pay race

By a Staff Reporter

Women work for appallingly low rates of pay and their earnings relative to men's have stagnated or even deteriorated slightly, the Low Pay Unit says in a briefing paper published yesterday.

Of almost four million adults classified as low paid, 65 per cent were women, it says.

On in eight of adult working men are low paid, but less than half, 54.5 per cent, of all adult working women are low paid, that is, working a full week with overtime on the basis of £7.5 for 40 hours, or £1.90 an hour.

The units briefing paper is the latest in a series of reports on the pay race, which yesterday in the Lords on racial and sexual discrimination and today in the Commons on the effects of Government policies on the right, status and opportunities of women.

The units says that the implementation of the Equal Pay and Sex Discrimination Acts five years ago did have a "once and for all" impact on women's pay, but the initial impetus for change had evaporated. "Indeed, real earnings have since declined."

There is an even greater difficulty of low pay among young workers, especially young girls.

The main obstacle to greater progress under the Equal Pay Act, it concludes, is the wording of the Act. It obliges employers to give equal pay for equal work. But often women are in jobs for which there is no male equivalent.

It calls for the Equal Pay Act to be amended to obligate employers to pay equal pay for work of equal value and for the Sex Discrimination Act to be amended to obligate employers to discriminate positively in favour of women when faced with otherwise equal applicants for a job.

Women and Low Pay (Low Pay Unit, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG).

Women at work, page 11

NCCL hails rejection of marches Bill clause

By Frances Gibb

MPs have rejected a controversial clause in the County of Kent Bill which would make it a criminal offence for organizers of marches to give the police 72 hours' notice or as much notice as was reasonably practicable.

The committee of four MPs under the chairmanship of Mr Thomas McNally, Labour MP for Stockport, South, unanimously ruled that the clause should be dropped from the Bill in view of the possibility of national legislation on notice requirements stemming from the Green Paper on Public Order.

Their decision was hailed as a victory by the broad alliance of 12 local groups who led by the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL), have opposed the Bill. They ranged from the Kent County Liberal Group and the Canterbury branch Labour Party to the Kent Graphical Society and the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (Maidstone).

Miss Harriet Harman, legal officer with the NCCL, said it was the first time a local authority which sought to introduce such a clause had fought it through to a Commons committee and lost.

The Bill was obliged to go to an "opponents committee" at which counsel for both sides give evidence. It has already been passed by the Lords, and received its second reading in the Commons.

Mr Stephen Irwin, counsel for the NCCL, and others, argued that the Kent police had failed to demonstrate the need for the notice requirement.

The clause would create a hotch-potch of local laws with different notice requirements in different counties.

Among evidence that influenced MPs in their decision was that of Mr Christopher Brown, a councillor, who said the new offence would discourage people from taking part in perfectly peaceful marches. Kent was not a trouble and strife torn part of the country.

The Green Paper on Public Order recommends a five-day national notice requirement.

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Did you watch TV last night?

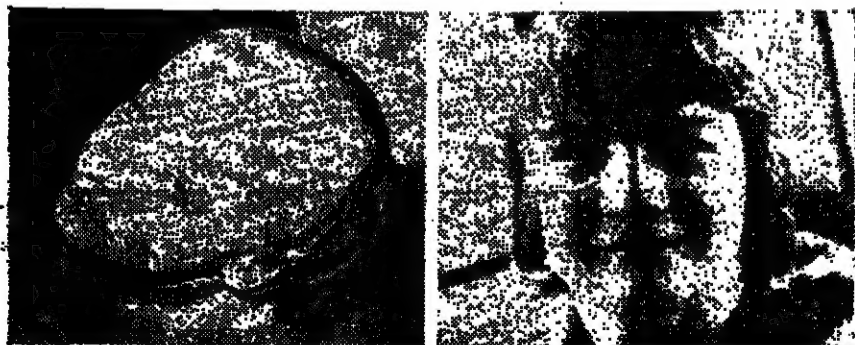
Do you realise what's going on?

Alfie is a victim of conditions in a "subnormality" hospital in Britain.

ATV's "Silent Minority" programme last night exposed how a few handicapped children face lives of unnecessary deprivation in some long-stay mental handicap hospitals - institutions ill-equipped and unsuited to their special needs.

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French Cabinet to use wealth tax to pay for jobs

From Ian Murray, Paris, June 10

Jobs and better pensions for the poor funded by higher taxation of the rich were agreed by the French Cabinet today.

The whole package of social measures already agreed by the Government is to cost 6,800m francs (about £818m). New taxation laws to be introduced before the new National Assembly next month are to raise 6,810m francs.

The measures were worked out in the course of what M. Pierre Bergey, Secretary General of the Elysee, described afterwards as a new style of Cabinet meeting in which ministers actually discussed the projects rather than rubber-stamped them.

It was also a wide-ranging meeting. Apart from agreement to create 54,290 more jobs in the public sector next month and to sort out the details of the new tax package, the Cabinet dealt with a list of promises made during the election campaign.

The much hated road tax for motor cycles is to go by December. Young farmers are to have their statutory grant doubled by the end of next year. Veterans are to receive a 5 per cent pension increase and there will be new jobs and credit in the education service.

In addition the details of the traditional amnesty law which follows the election of a new President were agreed. New categories of offenders than ever before will be included. Poachers, abortionists, military discipline offenders and anyone else serving sentences of less than six months would be released. Minor driving offences would be ignored or pardoned. But drug dealers and people who have introduced the social security system would be among those excluded from any amnesty.

The Cabinet also discussed free time. A new public service office for social leisure and popular education is to be created from the beginning of next month and a study on the way a free holiday system for the underprivileged could be introduced is to be urgently considered.

After all this good news came the bad.

The price of petrol is to be increased by 15 centimes a litre (roughly 15p a gallon). This, according to the Cabinet statement, was necessary because the previous Government had failed to respect its own rules for putting up the price of petroleum products.

The new taxation measures will mainly affect the 108,000 people—less than 1 per cent of all French taxpayers—who last year paid more than 100,000

francs on their declared income. This would, for example, include a married man with two children earning 8,261 francs (£750) a week. This new, and temporary, super-tax is expected to raise 4,210m francs.

To this will be added a windfall profit tax on last year's revenue by banks and oil companies which is meant to raise a further 2,600m francs. These new taxes are due to be agreed by one of the first laws to be tabled for the National Assembly's session immediately after the legislative elections.

The Government action was manifest at the end of the meeting as the various ministers sped off from the Elysee to prepare detailed statements.

M. Jacques Delors, Minister for Finance and the Economy, was first away. M. Laurent Fabius, Minister for the Budget, had already emphasised that this year's budgetary deficit was bound to be 51,600m francs rather than the forecast 24,900m even before the Socialists came to power.

M. Maurice Faure, the Minister of Justice, was working out the amnesty law. It would mean that about 5,000 people could be freed, he estimated later, and 60 per cent of all crimes committed by the Court of State Security would be released.

As far as Basque militants concerned a group decision would be taken. A group decision would be taken after extradition proceedings for the 12 involved.

Mme Catherine Lalumière, Junior Minister for the Public Sector, was working out how the 54,290 new jobs would be shared out. There would be 4,750 in education and 12,000 in the post office. There would be a total of 9,340 in social security jobs covering hospitals, old peoples' homes and centres for the handicapped. Cultural and social associations would receive 2,250 and a further 5,000 posts would be created in local government.

Perhaps the busiest department was the Ministry of Free Time with a five-point programme covering adult education and the arts, holidays and the theatre, with some different studies and a committee to form. This ministry is seen as one of the most important by the new Government and tonight it organized its first event.

Appropriately enough the Cabinet meeting was held on the forty-fifth anniversary of the day when Leo Lagrange, the first Minister of Sport and Leisure in France, announced the law providing for a second week's paid holiday.

Mitterrand fires his first shots in election campaign

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, June 10

Unlike his predecessor, who in 1978 and 1981, called on French voters to make "the right choice", M. Francois Mitterrand is asking them to support a parliamentary means of carrying out the policy for which he was elected.

At Montelimar last night, in his first important speech since his election to the presidency, he insisted that there were only two possible policies for France.

"The one is that whose failure Frenchmen have just condemned. They will judge it, I believe, on June 14 and 21 in the same way as they did on May 10. The other is that which I propose and which I have begun to implement."

He attacked the argument of the Gaullists and Giscardians that the voters will not want to put all their eggs in the same basket on Sunday, and urged a return to Parliament. A liberal majority to act as a break on the collectivization of French society.

"In these times of crisis and failure, France must speak with one voice," he said.

"She must be able to make her message of freedom and hope, of strength and tranquillity heard universally—for the sake of her own peace, and the peace of the world. I hope the country will give me the means to do so."

The choice of Montelimar in the Rhone valley was not accidental. This is a stronghold with a long Socialist tradition, deeply rooted in the cultivation of the vine.

M. Maurice Pic, its mayor, is an old companion of M. Mitterrand in the UDSR, that small key party of the fifties and sixties strategically placed at the left of centre, which boasted more ministers to its total membership than any other because it was an indispensable

element of all the kaleidoscopic coalitions of the Fourth Republic.

M. Henri Michel, one of the three Socialist deputies, is a personal friend of long standing, with whom the President has often stayed at Suzette-Rousse.

M. Mitterrand, in an informal talk with reporters at Solvay, in Burgundy, had said that he would not refrain from intervening in the parliamentary campaign. "But I shall certainly not do so outside the legal limits"—an allusion to the habit of M. Giscard d'Estaing, and his two predecessors of addressing a final appeal to the voters just before the official closing of the campaign.

The President also implicitly warned both the left of his own party and his opponents on the right that he felt bound only by his own campaign promises, and not by Socialist programmes or "projects" which M. Jacques Chirac and the leaders of the outgoing majority are brandishing like a red scarecrow before the eyes of the voters.

"The quiet man" now installed in the Elysee also took the opportunity to demonstrate his firmness and sense of authority towards the United States, "which must understand there is no true solidarity which is not based on a just economic cooperation. How can they expect it of their allies when their monetary policy placed upon them an excessive burden?"

Towards Russia, to which he warned that the Poles must settle their own problems by themselves. I solemnly repeat: the principle of non-intervention in the affairs of a country is a fundamental principle. Any breach of this rule will have serious consequences."

Jobless on EEC minds

From Michael Hornsby, Brussels, June 10

Economics and labour or social affairs ministers of the Ten were gathering in Luxembourg today, in a forlorn attempt to convince their various electorates that they are sincerely trying to do something about unemployment.

The idea for the conference—referred to here as the Jumbo Council because of the number of its participants—first emanated from the Dutch, largely for electoral reasons, and was somewhat casually endorsed at last November's EEC summit meeting.

Since then this commitment has come to be regretted. At least part of the reason why it is being held now is the desire of the British to get it out of the way before they take

over the EEC presidency from the Dutch on July 1.

It is certain that the outpouring of rhetoric and fine-sounding speeches will be in inverse proportion to the concrete results of the conference, which seems likely merely to advertise the inability or unwillingness of most governments to take the action necessary to create more jobs.

Not that anyone disputes the seriousness of the problem. According to the European Commission, there were six million unemployed in the EEC in 1978. This figure now stands at more than 8.5 million, is expected to reach 10 million by the end of the year and will probably rise to 12 million by 1985.

This grim prospect is the product both of recession and demographic trends



Mr. Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, in Hamburg with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor.

US team resumes talks on Namibia

From Eric Marsden, Cape Town, June 10

Mr. William Clark, the United States Deputy Secretary of State, arrived in Cape Town tonight at the head of a mission of three to discuss with South African leaders ways of bringing Namibia back to the road to independence.

He was accompanied by Dr. Chester Crocker, the newly confirmed Assistant Secretary of State, and Mr. Elliot Abrams, the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organizations.

Mr. Clark, making his first important diplomatic mission overseas, was in guarded mood at the airport. He declined to

make an opening statement and parried questions with polite headshakes, saying: "That is premature" or "That will have to wait until after our talks."

He said he had come to continue "the very fine discussions" that Mr. R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, had had in Washington last month. He was unwilling to go into elements of a Namibia settlement such as the possible supervisory role of United Nations troops (to which both the Namibian internal parties and the

Bonn gets car export pledge from Japanese

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, June 10

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and Mr. Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, today upheld the principle of free trade in the face of growing protectionism in Europe towards Japanese imports.

At the same time Japan undertook not to increase its car exports to West Germany by more than 10 per cent a year, according to Herr Kurt Becker, a government spokesman.

In Tokyo Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the Economics Minister, described the Japanese assurance as a partial success of his mission there this week to try to persuade the Japanese voluntarily to limit their exports to Europe and relax their import barriers, or face restrictions here.

He had told them that it would become difficult for West Germany—a fervent advocate of free trade—to resist the tide of protectionism within the EEC.

Reports from Tokyo said the 10 per cent ceiling referred to this year, and the minister was merely given to understand there would be no dramatic change next year.

Last year Japan sold 250,000 cars in West Germany, 100,000 more than the year before, increasing its share of the market from 5.6 to 10.4 per cent. Imports increased another 31 per cent in the first four months of this year, and are expected to drop sharply soon, to keep within the 10 per cent limit.

The Japanese concession was announced as Mr. Suzuki began talks with the Chancellor in Hamburg on the first day of his 12-day tour of Europe.

Leading article, page 17

Coca-Cola moves into wine market

From Michael Lespenson, New York, June 10

American tipplers are already blessed with low-calorie beers, letting them get drunk but not fat. Now, more stylish weight-conscious sippers will from next week also be catered for, when the Coca-Cola Company introduces a diet wine.

Four years ago the multinational soft drinks company acquired the Taylor Wine Company of New York and quickly expanded into California. Since then, what was still a comparatively gentlemanly trade has turned into a world of cut-throat competition, with saturation television advertising and slick merchandising techniques.

The result has been to expand the market for wine and especially to encourage its consumption as a drink on its own, not just with meals.

Its less-fertening quality is achieved by picking grapes when they are not quite ripe and so have a lower sugar content.

Production of the wine in California was made possible only last year when the state repealed a law requiring that all wine should be at least 10 per cent alcohol.

Coca-Cola also won a legal battle to use the word "light" on the label in conjunction with calorie information.

After all this effort to get the new product on the market, how does it taste? Test marketing does not begin until next week, and even then the stuff will not be sold in New York city.

Some motoring organisations have eyes that tend to wander. Ours have always been firmly fixed on the road. From the very beginning, the RAC has been the friend, the spokesman, the champion of the motorist.

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The RAC continually lobbies governments, MP's, local authorities and other organisations.

The RAC makes the strongest possible representations in controversial legislative areas like 'random checks' and the motorist offences 'totting up' system.

The RAC campaigns incessantly for improvements in road safety standards.

The RAC also independently evaluates fuel consumption, tyres and accessories for manufacturers.

The RAC working together with the Auto Cycle Union, organises a national motor cycle training scheme.

The RAC promotes caravan road safety codes. Campaigns for improved compensation for road accident victims. Fights for the simplification of court procedures for motoring offences.

And so on, ad infinitum.

At the same time, the RAC helps motorists in more visible ways. Like putting up temporary signposts. And publishing lighting-up times. And issuing traffic reports.

And there's no prize for guessing who organises the country's most famous and important car rally.

All these efforts help all of Britain's motorists. Members of the RAC are helped in many other ways.

Already two million motorists are protected by the RAC Rescue and Recovery Services.

These members can also take advantage of special car insurance rates. Expert vehicle examinations. Technical advice. Special finance plans for car purchase. Free legal defence for most motoring offences.

And free legal advice in all motoring matters.

And then of course there's the RAC travel and touring service. The service that includes the impeccable RAC Travellers Bond.

The RAC also publishes books on motoring. On hotels and holidays. On caravanning and camping. On car maintenance and repairs. On learning to drive and knowing the law.

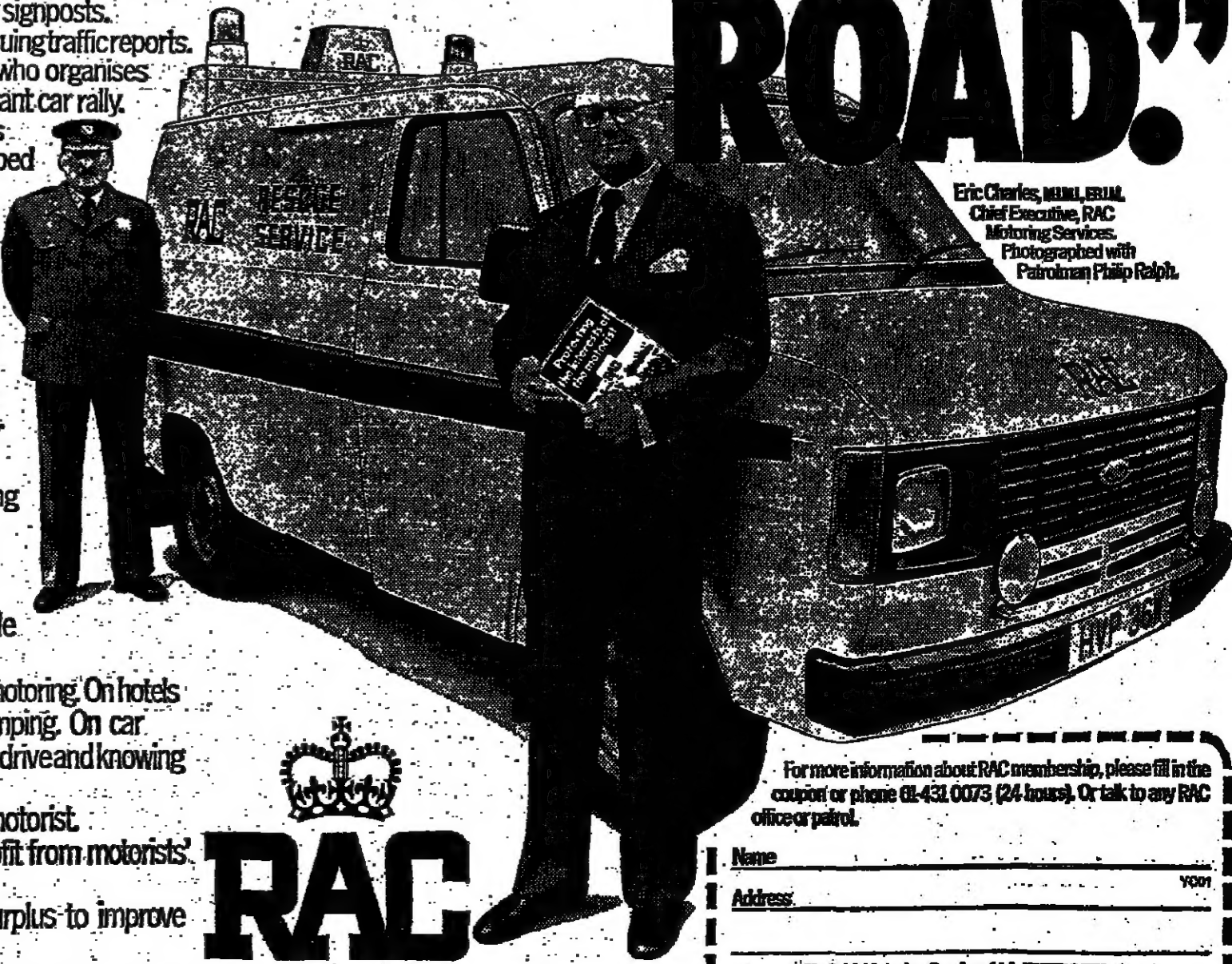
On everything that concerns the motorist.

The RAC is not in business to profit from motorists' misfortunes.

But rather ploughs back any surplus to improve services to the motorist.

And so, everyone at the RAC keeps his eyes on the road. And that includes everyone from Patrolman Philip Ralph to Chief Executive Eric Charles.

Our only concern is the motorist.



Eric Charles, RAC, Chief Executive, RAC Motoring Services. Photographed with Patrolman Philip Ralph.

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No need to attach a stamp.

Dear comrades . . . Moscow warns Polish party

This is the text of the letter from the Soviet Central Committee to the Polish Central Committee which was sent last Friday and was debated by the Polish Central Committee on Tuesday. The translation in parts is a little free.

Dear Comrades,
The Central Committee of the Soviet Union addresses itself to you in this letter feeling profound anxiety for the fate of socialism in Poland and for the freedom and independence of the country.

Our démarche is dictated by the interest which we have as party members in the work of the Polish United Workers' Party and for the sister nation of socialist Poland as a member of the Warsaw Pact and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (Comecon).

Polish and Soviet communists have fought shoulder to shoulder in the battle against fascism and were together throughout all the years after the war. Our party and the people of the Soviet Union have helped their Polish comrades in the building of a new life. Therefore we cannot fail to be worried about the threat which now puts the revolutionary gains of the Polish nation in mortal danger.

We say openly that certain tendencies in the development of the People's Republic of Poland, particularly in the field of ideology and in the economic policies of the previous leadership, have been arousing our anxiety for many years. In full accordance with the spirit of relations which exist between the Polish and Soviet parties we spoke of this to Polish leaders during meetings at the highest level and during other encounters.

Unfortunately these friendly warnings, just like critical declarations from inside the Polish party, were not taken into consideration and were even ignored. As a consequence a profound crisis broke out in Poland which spread through the whole political life of the country.

The change in the leadership of the Polish party and its great efforts to overcome grave errors, deriving from the violation of principles which should regulate the construction of socialism, were intended to regain popular confidence, above all that of the working class in the party, and reinforce socialist democracy.

These efforts found our full understanding. From the very first days of the crisis we thought it important that the party should decisively oppose all attempts to turn back to socialism to take advantage of difficulties to promote their long term aims. But this was not done.

Continuing concessions to anti-socialist forces and to their demands led the party to withdraw in the face of pressure from counter-revolution which relies on the support of foreign centres of imperialism and subversion.

At present the situation is not only dangerous but also critical. It is not possible to assess the situation any differently. Enemies of socialist Poland are not hiding their intention. They are conducting a struggle



for power and are already winning. They are taking control of one position after another.

Counter-revolution is using the extremist wing of Solidarity as a spearhead of attack, making use of workers who joined this professional union, in order to carry out this criminal plot against people's power and authority.

A wave of anti-communism and anti-Sovietism is developing. Imperialist forces are making more and more audacious attempts to interfere in Poland's internal affairs.

Greedy hands of capitalism

The serious danger to socialist Poland also puts the very existence of the Polish state in danger. If the worst were to happen and the enemies of socialism were to assume power, if Poland were no more to benefit from the defence of socialism, the greedy hands of imperialism would immediately stretch out. Who would then be able to guarantee the independence, sovereignty and frontiers of the Polish state? Nobody.

You attended the meeting of the Eastern parties which took place in Moscow on December 1, 1980. On March 4, 1981, there were talks between the Soviet leadership and a delegation from the Polish party attending the twenty-sixth congress. On April 23 this year, a Soviet delegation met the entire Polish leadership.

During these meetings and in other contacts we underlined our anxiety about the activity of counter-revolutionary forces in Poland. We have spoken of the need to surmount the con-

fusion within the ranks of the Polish party, of the need for a decisive defence of people's power against enemy attacks.

In particular, attention was drawn to the fact that the enemy had gained domination over the mass media which are being used to destroy socialism and disintegrate the party. We drew attention to the fact that the battle for the party cannot be won as long as press, radio and television work not for the party but for the enemy.

We also put forward forcefully the need to reinforce in Poland the forces of public order and the Army and to strengthen their defensive capability against the ambitions of counter-revolutionary forces.

To tolerate attempts to slander and disintegrate the security organs the militia and consequently the Army too means disarming the socialist state and abandoning it to the mercy of class enemies.

We wish to underline that in all these questions Comrades Kania and Jaruzelski and other Polish comrades expressed agreement with our point of view, but in fact, everything remained unchanged and there was no correction whatever to the policy of concession and compromise. One position after another is being surrendered.

In spite of documents from the last plenum (in May) which stated that there was a threat of counter-revolution, not a single measure has up to now been taken to confront it and to expose its organizers.

Recently the situation inside the party has also become the subject of our particular pre-occupation. Only a month is left before the Polish party

congress, yet forces hostile to socialism are increasingly setting the tone of the election campaign.

Often candidates who openly express opportunist points of view have entered the leadership of local party organizations and are counting on a number of delegates to confer with them at the congress itself. This cannot but provoke anxiety.

Activists with irreproachable reputations and morality are being pushed out by the multiple manipulations of enemies of the party, revisionists and opportunists.

The fact that among the delegates to the approaching congress there is an extremely small number of communists from working class circles is profoundly worrying.

Preparations for the congress are complicated by the so-called movement of horizontal structures which is an instrument for dismantling the party and which opportunists are using to promote people indispensable to them in turning the proceedings along the road they want.

Enormous aid from Russia

It cannot be excluded that during the congress itself an attempt could be made to strike a decisive blow against Marxist-Leninist forces in the party and in fact to liquidate it.

We want to say, particularly in the past few months the forces of counter-revolution are actively disseminating anti-Sovietism of all kinds, designed to obscure the achievements of our two parties and to resurrect once again nationalism and anti-

Soviet sentiments in different strata of Polish society.

These slanderous and liar do not stop at anything. They maintain that the Soviet Union is plundering Poland, and this is said without bearing in mind the fact that the Soviet Union was and is providing enormous supplementary material aid to Poland in this difficult period.

It is said about a country which supplies principal branches of Polish industry with oil, gas, cotton and minerals at prices which are often one and a half to two times lower than world prices.

Respected comrades, in writing to you we not only have at heart our profound anxiety for the situation in sister Poland and for the conditions and prospects for Soviet-Polish cooperation but also the fact that other fraternal parties are anxious that anti-socialist and enemy forces are menacing the interests of our entire community, its cohesion and integrity and the security of its frontiers.

Yes, our common security is imperilled. Reactionary forces and stimulates counter-revolution in Poland. It does not hide its hopes that in this way it can swing the balance of forces in Europe in its favour.

Imperialism is actively using the crisis to slander the socialist system, the principles and practice of socialism. It uses the crisis for new attacks against the international communist movement.

Historic responsibility therefore rests on the Polish party not only for the destiny of its own country, for its independence and progress, but also for the interests of the socialist community.

We believe that a possibility

of avoiding a national catastrophe still exists. Inside the Polish party there are many honest and firm communists ready to fight for the ideals of Marxism-Leninism and for an independent Poland. There are also numerous persons in the working class who are devoted to the cause of socialism and have not been lured by the lies and machinations of enemies and who will follow the party and reflect its views.

It is now necessary to mobilize all healthy forces of socialism to confront the class enemy and fight the counter-revolution. This calls first of all for revolutionary will in the party and among its militants and leadership. Yes, its leadership!

Time is not waiting. The party must find in itself forces to reverse the course of events and to put things in order with good will before the congress.

Entire Soviet people with you

We would like to believe that the Central Committee of the Polish sister party will rise to its historic responsibilities. We wish to assure you, dear comrades, that in these difficult days, as always in the past, the Central Committee of the Soviet party and all Soviet comrades and the entire Soviet people are with you in your fight.

Our point of view was expressed with precision in the declaration of Comrade Brezhnev to the twenty-sixth congress: "We will not abandon fraternal socialist Poland in its hour of need. We will stand by it."

Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, June 5, 1981.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

West's first task is its economy

Does history run in grooves? The feeling that we have seen it all before has never been stronger than it is today, with the Soviet Union leaning every day more openly towards another invasion—it would be the third—of a "brotherly" country, in order to prevent it would be the second time—the holding of a communist congress.

Right now, having pointed out from the end of April that the period of real danger had come for the Polish rebellion, I would rather be tempted to point out that there are many good reasons why the Russians should not invade: more than 30 million good reasons, as many as there are Poles in Poland, plus one in the Vatican. Does Mr. Leonid Brezhnev want to risk, in his old age, a bloodbath in the heart of Europe? Does he really believe that by so doing he would strengthen Soviet power? Such doubts may still stop him.

Whatever happens in the next few weeks, events in Poland prove once again that the democratic West must prepare itself for a very long trial of strength with the Soviet Empire. General Sir John Hackett may be right in saying, as I heard him say at a recent conference, that "after all, the disintegration of the Soviet Empire from within is only a matter of time." I happen to agree with this view. But nobody knows whether we shall have to calculate time in years or generations.

Iceberg not thawing

Even accepting that Soviet power became a global threat only after the Second World War, our trial of strength, aimed at permitting us to outlast the last empire of history, has already gone on for one full generation. It could last for another.

It is a long time since anyone in the West spoke of doing something to roll back Soviet power. During the last decade we acted on the belief that the warm breeze of détente would hasten the thawing and breaking up of the Soviet iceberg faster than any icy winds from the Cold War.

In fact, either in the Cold War or in détente, the crisis-cycle of the Soviet Empire has remained the same: every 12 years or so one satellite country runs for freedom and is brutally brought back into the communist fold by the Red Army, or as in the case of Poland so far, by the threat to use it. This proves that the roots of the disease are deep inside the Soviet system. What we do is almost irrelevant.

Nor can we intervene in a crisis once it started, because we cannot risk an atomic war. We must wait for the cycle to run its full course, for the wheel to return, perhaps 12 years from now, to its present position. On one of these cycles, the disintegration of the Soviet Empire may finally take place, and when it happens the world shall tremble. In fact that the shock waves of such an event may not be contained within the frontiers of the empire itself: unless of course Vico's Law of Cycles is proved wrong and history takes another path.

In the meantime, we must prepare ourselves for a very prolonged test of our resistance and willpower. What can we do to make sure that we can outlast the last empire?

Strong political instincts

The prevailing view of the West today is that we must, first of all, strengthen our defence efforts, in the NATO area and outside it. This is certainly valid and urgent. But I found very convincing an alternative view, which I heard forcefully argued by Mr. David Watt at another recent meeting, according to which "the most important thing for the alliance is to get our economic situation right, to get more growth."

Mr. Watt's main point was that the defence effort itself cannot be sustained unless the American and European economies become stronger. One could add that more growth is equally indispensable in order to bring "re-employment levels and in order to strengthen our societies politically, so that they remain the superior civilization during the prolonged trial of strength."

President Reagan, with his strong political instincts, knows that his plans for the economic renaissance of America are to him as important as his campaign for America's rearmament. But his present management of economic affairs, while offering his home, is helping to plunge the rest of the free world into very serious trouble.

This is very wrong. The contradictions between the economic policies of the main Western powers must be solved before the July summit of the Seven which had better deal this time mostly with economic affairs. Right now, "getting our economy right" may be the most important political task of the alliance, in answer to the unending turbulence of the world outside.

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Reagan unlikely to stop arms for Israel

From David Cross, Washington, June 10

President Reagan met his defence and foreign policy advisers at the White House again today to discuss possible retaliatory action against Israel for using American-built aircraft in its raid on the Iraqi nuclear power plant.

The Administration has promised to decide within the next day or two whether to suspend military sales to Israel. Spokesmen for the State Department and White House, who have condemned last Sunday's raid, have said on several occasions that the Israelis may well have violated American restrictions on the use of military equipment.

However, although it is fairly clear that Israel broke American law by using F15 and F16 aircraft offensively rather than for defensive purposes, Administration officials have indicated that any punitive action will be symbolic at most. Washington could, for example, decide to delay temporarily the delivery to the Israelis of four new F16 fighter bombers due to be handed over on June 15.

Mr Reagan and his advisers were also considering their attitude to the forthcoming debate in the United Nations Security Council on last Sunday's raid. They will have to decide whether they should go in joining other Security Council members who are bound to condemn the Israeli attack.

After a late night meeting of the President and his advisers at the White House yesterday, a spokesman for Mr Reagan said no decision had yet been taken on how the Administration would react to the raid.

Any decisions will be made in the best interests of the United States, he said, adding that he did not expect today's gathering to come to any final conclusions. On Capitol Hill, members of the Senate and the House of Representatives have made it clear that they, too, do not expect the close relationship between Washington and Tel Aviv to be impaired in spite of the anger in Moscow and the whole of the Arab world.

In a television interview today



No comment from Brigadier General Abdul Jawad Amin, Iraq's director of technology, cornered at the Paris Air Show

Air strike puts bite into election campaigning

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, June 10

After a brief delay for mutual admiration of Israel's military prowess, last Sunday's long-range air strike against Iraq's nuclear reactor has now emerged as a bitterly contested campaign issue between the ruling right-wing Government and the opposition Labour Party.

With less than three weeks to go until polling day Mr Shimon Peres, the Opposition leader, accused Mr Menachem Begin, Prime Minister, of deliberately launching the attack as a vote-catching measure.

He claimed that a military operation was not necessary at this stage, adding that the government should have allowed President Mitterrand to campaign in Israel, a campaign, pledge not to supply Iraq with enriched uranium.

Mr Abba Eban, another prominent Labour Party figure and former Foreign Minister, accused Mr Begin of irresponsibility for inviting President Sadat of Egypt to a summit meeting in the Sinai on the eve of the raid.

This has rendered the Egyptians susceptible to accusations of collusion, he said, and had accounted for their nervous reaction.

The delay in public Labour Party criticism of the raid is understood to have arisen from fears inside the party that such a move would appear unpatriotic. The change in tactics comes alongside indications that the spectacular raid has further

Every Israeli bomb scored direct hit on Iraqi reactor

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, June 10

Some 72 hours after the event a clearer picture is beginning to emerge about the probable tactics used by the Israeli Air Force to mount last Sunday's long-distance raid which destroyed Iraq's main nuclear reactor at a site 15 miles outside Baghdad.

Because of the strict military censorship enforced by Israel on operational details, much of the information about the raid in which the attack was mounted has originated from intelligence and other sources in America.

The Washington sources claim that about 15 American-built F15 and F16 jets were involved in the raid, which was the longest-range air operation ever carried out by Israeli fighter aircraft.

The jets were scrambled from Etzion, the air base situated in that part of the Sinai due to be handed back to Egypt next April. In order to avoid radar detection and possible missile attack, the jets are believed to have flown low over the barren empty quarter of Saudi Arabia for much of their journey.

The American sources believe that refuelling took place soon after take off, with the modern F15s being used to bomb the Iraqi installation while the heavier, more powerful F16s flew air cover to guard against Iraqi interceptors.

In order to deflect suspicion from the Saudi Arabians, the Israeli pilots are understood to have identified themselves as members of the Jordanian Air Force and spoken in Arabic over their intercoms. It is not known whether they used special Jordanian air codes.

Outlining the difficulties posed by the operation, Major-General David Ivri, the chief of

the Air Force, said: "We carried out very many exercises and training procedures over the course of many months. We had to provide answers to a number of basic problems including range, or the radius of the action, fuel, problems of communication with the target or intelligence agents and monitoring in far-off areas."

Much of the initial work in identifying the layout of the reactor site, the work habits of the hundred or so foreign experts and the likelihood of Iraqi retaliation, was done by agents of the Mossad, Israel's effective and strictly secret equivalent of Britain's MI6.

It is also believed to have been information from Mossad sources which convinced Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, and the country's leading military planners that the Osirak reactor was within a maximum of three months from becoming operational.

The actual bombing was carried out with remarkable accuracy, using ordinary 2,000lb bombs and repaying hours of practice on scale models of the reactor. The Israelis have made it clear that their intention was to destroy the main 70 megawatt reactor, and not the much smaller experimental reactor also located on the site.

A 60-minute colour video tape film of the raid has been studied by senior Israeli politicians, and discussions are still under way to determine whether any segment of it can be released for public viewing.

The supreme confidence expressed by Israel from the outset about the success of the mission was partly based on a blow-up of one of the frames which clearly showed the core

of the Iraqi reactor crumbling and crashing into the cooling pool.

Mr Harry Cato, a Pentagon spokesman, said that American satellite photographs had shown extensive damage to the Iraqi installation, with every bomb scoring a direct hit.

Another American source explained: "There was not one crater around the place. Every bomb went where it was supposed to."

It is now known that the Israeli fighters encountered only sporadic anti-aircraft fire during the attack. Once it was completed, they took roughly the same route back over the desert wastes of Saudi Arabia, covering some 1,120 miles, all of it over hostile territory.

One potential threat to the tight secrecy surrounding the operation was the presence of Avacs aerial surveillance aircraft flying regular missions from Saudi Arabia. But it seems that this was avoided because the aircraft patrol only along the eastern part of Saudi territory, some 1,000 miles from the route taken by the Israeli raiders.

The success of Sunday's mission has inevitably led to speculation that some type of similarly spectacular action is being planned against the new Syrian missile base in Lebanon. Asked yesterday to compare the problems that would be encountered in the two operations, General Ivri replied that to do so would be as difficult as "comparing a cucumber and a tomato."

The Israeli Air Force commander added: "The main thing is that this attack we have been successfully completing, whereas the other one is still ahead of us."

Weekend meeting: Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, said in Peking today that the Council was unlikely to meet before the weekend. (David Bonavia writes).

Arriving here from Tokyo, he said, the council would wait until the Arab League had met to discuss the new crisis. While in China the Secretary-General will have talks with Mr Huang Hua, the Foreign Minister.

Quarrels threaten Arab unity

From Robert Fisk

Beirut, June 10

Less than 24 hours before the Arab League is to debate a concerted response to the Israeli attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor, Arab states were today showing signs of dissension.

Libya sneered at Saudi Arabia's inability to prevent the Israeli jets flying over its territory, while Syria announced that the Israeli aircraft would have been shot down by missiles if they had flown over Syria.

This display of petulance augurs badly for any hopes that the Arabs can for once present a united stand in the face of an Israeli attack.

Demands for an economic boycott of the United States are likely to become bogged down in the quarrelling of Arab states who suspect that their neighbours are hostile traitors or client kingdoms of the United States.

The Libyan radio and state-controlled newspapers have been criticising Saudi Arabia for failing to realize that the Israelis were flying over their country. Libyans wanted to know why the Arab League and Command Systems (Awacs) aircraft delivered by the United States were unable to alert the Saudis to the presence of the intruding aircraft.

For several months now Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, has been claiming that the mere existence of the Awacs aircraft is a blasphemy against the Islamic shrines of Saudi Arabia.

In Damascus, the Government newspaper *Al Baath* said an Israeli attack could not have been successfully undertaken against Syria. "Such an attack would not be a picnic," an editorial said, suggesting that that was what the Israelis were up to.

If enemy planes had flown Syria in the way they did Baghdad, they would have been struck down by missiles."

Iraq today recounted the extent of international condemnation against Israel. The Iraqi news agency also gave considerable prominence to the statement by Mr Sivard of the International Atomic Energy Agency, quoting him as saying that it had inspected the Baghdad reactor and had found that Iraq had "made no nuclear activity which contravenes the (nuclear non-proliferation) treaty".

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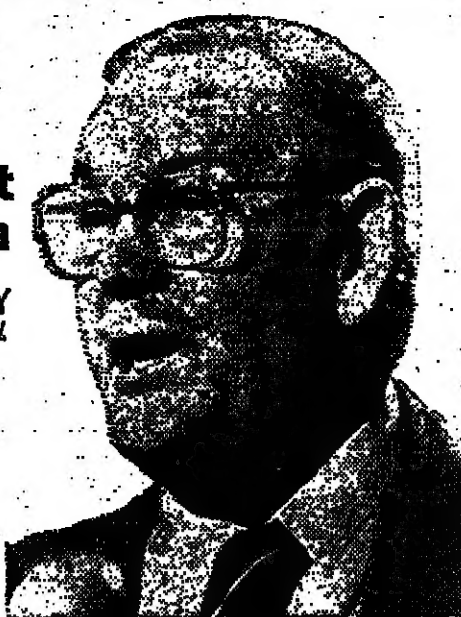


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SIR MAURICE HODGSON
CHAIRMAN, ICI

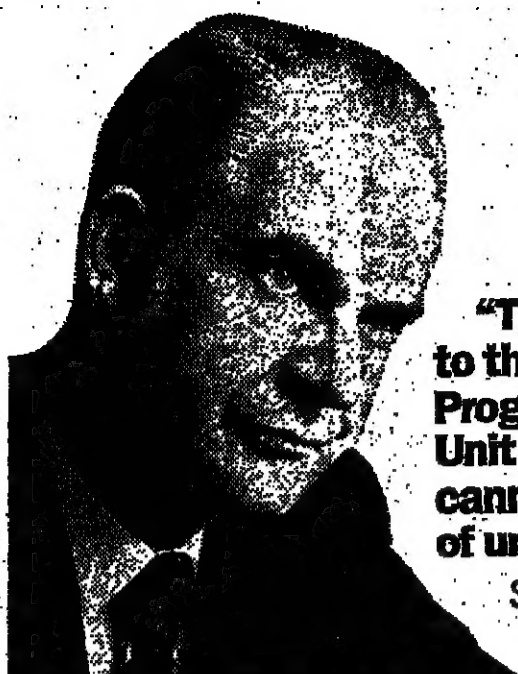
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TERRY DUFFY
PRESIDENT, ALENX



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LORD SIEFF
CHAIRMAN, MARKS AND SPENCER

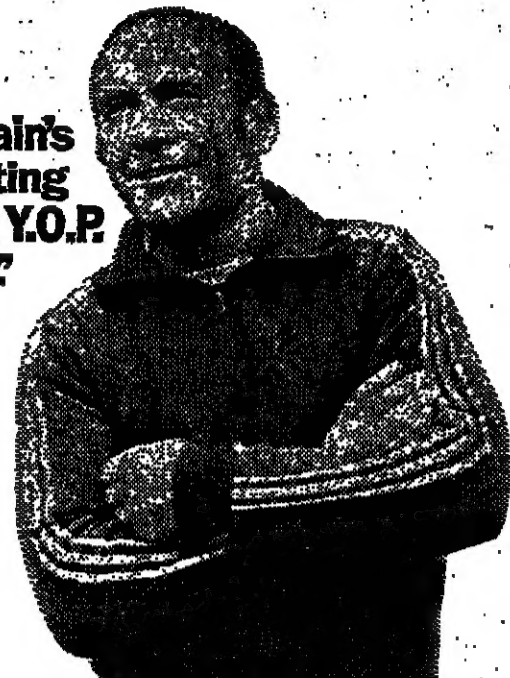


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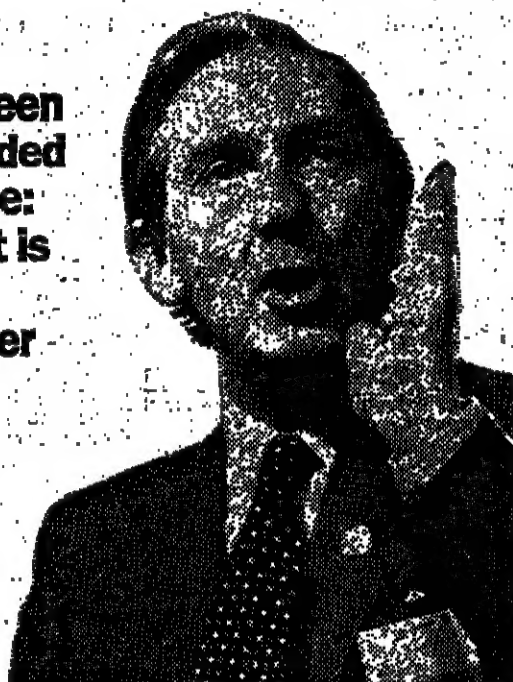
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Every good employer should be backing it."

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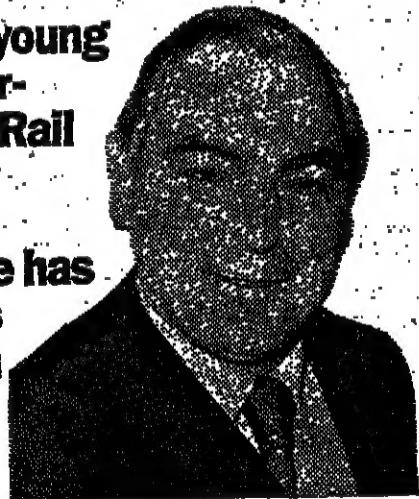
"The future of this country will be in the hands of those very teenagers Y.O.P. is helping today. The T.U.C.'s behind it all the way."

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But the MSC pays the youngsters and there are no tax returns or National Insurance contributions."

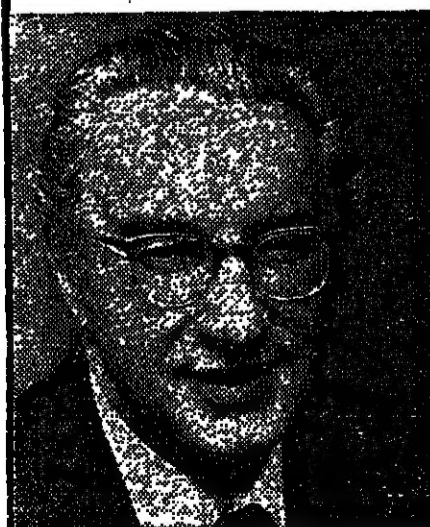
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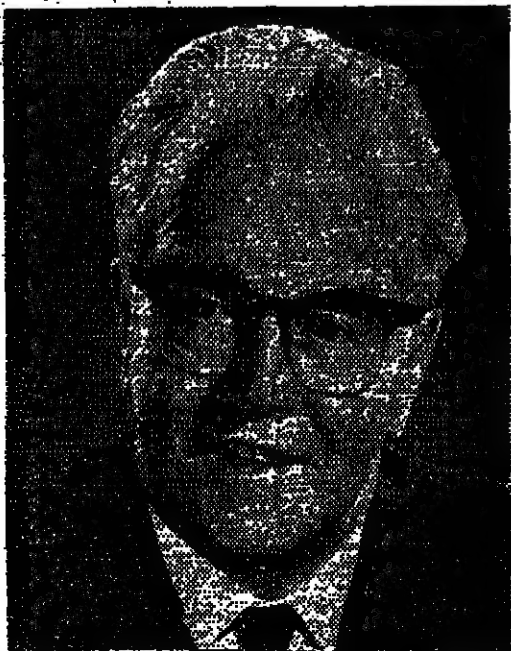


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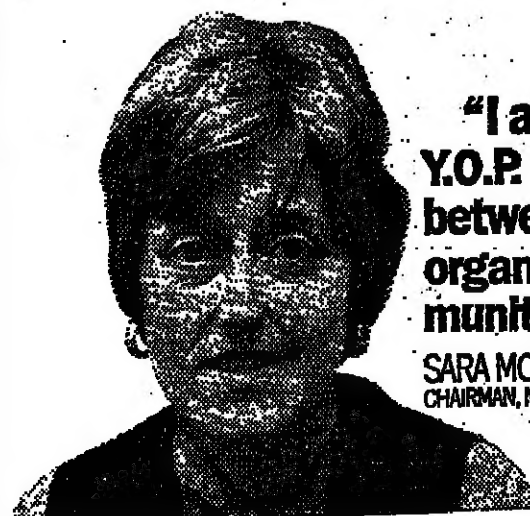


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Crisis deepens as Forlani fails to form government

By Peter Nichols, Rome, June 10

A former newspaper editor has been asked to try and form a government in Italy because of the failure of Signor Arnaldo Forlani to do so.

If Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Republican Party leader, succeeds, he will be the first politician in three and a half decades to break the Christian Democratic monopoly on the Premiership.

Senator Spadolini, an historian who edited the Milan newspaper *Corriere della Sera* goes to the palace tomorrow.

His summons by President Pertini came at the end of a day in which the Italian crisis grew progressively more serious.

Not only was Signor Forlani's own position weakened to the point that he could do nothing but withdraw from the scene, there was a worsening in developments surrounding the Masonic crisis which brought down the Forlani Government.

In Turin yesterday, Signor Walter Mandelli, deputy chairman of the Confederation of Industry, said: "No country in the state Italy is in has ever

solved its problems without a dictatorship. I still want to believe that we shall manage to avoid it."

The Masonic scandal hardened today after publication of an interview given to the Rome newspaper *La Repubblica* by Signor Giuliano Turone and Signor Gherardo Colombo, the two Milan investigating magistrates who discovered the P2 lists.

These were found in the Palazzo of Signor Licio Gelli, organiser of the P2 group, who is now in hiding to avoid arrest on charges of espionage.

He was a Freemason and his P2 organisation still had ties with official Freemasonry even though it was not a lodge in the usual sense of the term.

Signor Gelli has since been suspended by the Masonic leadership. The lists show that he had gathered around him 553 people including politicians and heads of the armed forces and secret services.

The defence of some of the men allegedly associated with him is that the lists were con-

cocted by Signor Gelli or others with the specific aim of allowing them to fall into the hands of the investigators.

This defence has largely been swept away by what the two investigating magistrates say today.

They make clear that they carried out the search of Signor Gelli's villa without informing the local police chief or any other authorities. By acting in this way they were sure that Signor Gelli's informers in high places would have been unable to tell him in advance that his home was about to be searched.

They also say that the documents found in the villa certainly do not amount to the whole Gelli archive which they believe is kept abroad in Switzerland or Latin America.

The documents so far seized referred simply to current business and it might be said that the lists given relatively small importance by the investigating judges have so far brought down one Government and are effectively preventing the formation of a new one.



Cindy Spicer, aged nine, of St Paul, Minnesota, the youngest heart transplant recipient in the world, ships happily out of the University of Minnesota Hospital, followed by her father. She received her new heart five weeks ago. Doctors described her condition as superb.

Portraits of Franco still adorn Spanish ships

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, June 10

Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Spanish Prime Minister, has had to remind senior naval officers that photographs or portraits of King Juan Carlos must be shown in a prominent place on their ships and not those of General Franco.

He was commenting in Barcelona last night on the large portrait of the late dictator on board the Spanish Navy's aircraft carrier *Dedalo*, the flagship of the fleet assembled off the Catalan capital during armed forces' week last month.

"In my view in all official buildings and ships of the Navy the King's portrait must occupy a principal place and appropriate measures will be taken where this is not so," Señor Calvo Sotelo told reporters at the naval museum.

Already last autumn the Suárez Government issued instructions on similar lines after the paramilitary Civil Guard had ostentatiously continued to give pride of place to Franco's portrait. But these instructions were evidently ignored by some senior naval officers.

During armed forces' week in Barcelona there was also an incident involving the Navy, un-

reported by the Spanish national press. The new Spanish state radio was accused of being a Socialist by a rear-admiral, the son of a former navy minister under Franco, who went on to boast of his sympathies for the former regime.

The Socialist Party has put down questions in Parliament for the Minister of the Interior about a military-style parade in which several hundred uniformed members of the youth wing of *Fuerza Nueva*, the neo-Falangist party, took part on Sunday in Valladolid, during its national congress.

As the uniformed youths marched past they were reviewed by Señor Blas Pinar, the extreme right-wing member of the Spanish Parliament. The martial music played included the "Hymn of the Infantes" reserved for the daughters of the King and for army generals.

The civil governor in the Castilian town, which has been selected by extreme right-wing forces for promoting their activities, has started proceedings to fine *Fuerza Nueva*. As the demonstrators dispersed, they provoked incidents with the local police.

Kabul gun battle in palace

From Trevor Fishlock, Delhi, June 10

Feuding between rival factions in Afghanistan's ruling party has erupted into a gun battle in the People's Palace, the presidential headquarters in Kabul, according to reports reaching Delhi today.

A diplomatic source said that nine days ago there was shooting between members of the Khalq faction and President Babrak Karmal's Parcham faction. One of the presidential bodyguards was killed, according to one report.

It is not known whether Mr Karmal was in the palace at the time. There are rumours in Kabul that he has visited Moscow recently and has been told to redouble his efforts to bring unity to the party.

Unity, however, will be difficult to achieve. The differences between the factions are deep and bitter and there have been numerous gun battles and murders, mostly in Kabul.

The diplomatic source said that Mr Karmal's parents were flown to the Soviet Union recently. There were also reports that the family of his brother, Baryalai, and of Mr Muhammad Rafi, the Defence Minister, had left for the Soviet Union. There is speculation here that Mr Karmal and others in the hierarchy fear that their families are in danger as the feuding intensifies.

Turk plea to Armenians

Ankara, June 10. — Turkey appealed today to Armenian communities throughout the world to protest against continuing attacks on Turkish diplomats abroad following last night's murder of a Turk in Geneva.

A Foreign Ministry statement said: "We expect Armenian communities all over the world

not to remain silent about these continuing murders, whose perpetrators claim they are acting on the Armenian's behalf."

Mehmet Yerguz, a 37-year-old Turkish employee at the consulate in Geneva, was shot dead by a gunman in the street as he walked home. Police said the assailant, caught by passers-by, declared he was an Armenian.

TAIWAN ARMS OPPOSED

Peking, June 10. — China today voiced strong opposition to continued United States arms sales to Taiwan in a statement issued only four days before the arrival in Peking of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State.

According to the New China news agency, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said Peking would rather receive no American arms than accept continued United States interference.

IN BRIEF

Greece thwarts putsch plot

Athens, June 10. — Mr Evangelos Averoff, the Greek Defence Minister, disclosed tonight that he had thwarted a putsch by retired Army officers on June 1, simply by ordering a military exercise in the Athens region earlier than scheduled.

He told Parliament that intelligence from three different, reliable sources indicated that a group of misguided retired officers had intended to stage an "action" at 2 a.m. Mr Averoff said their objectives were unclear. He would not ask for prosecution of those responsible. "What we must do," he said, "is keep an eye on them."

Shroud imprints

Chicago, June 10. — Computer analysis shows that imprints of shrouds of Jesus of Nazareth were made by coins issued by Pontius Pilate about the time of Christ's crucifixion, the Rev Francis Filas, Professor of Theology at Loyola, reports.

Berlin arrests

Berlin, June 10. — Police detained 35 people during overnight street clashes with squatters here, a spokesman said today. Fighting broke out after police had searched houses occupied by squatters in the Kreuzberg district.

Sisters accused

Athens, June 10. — Two sisters, Litsa Tsangarakis, aged 23, and Katina, who is 20, wanted by police in connexion with the bombing of two Athens department stores last week, were charged today under Greece's anti-terrorism law.

Train victims found

Badli Ghat, India, June 10. — The bodies of 143 victims of last Saturday's train disaster have been recovered from the Bagmati river. Many others are still missing and officials estimate the final toll will be at least 800.

Lawmaker quits

Peking, June 10. — Mr Peng Zhen, one of China's foremost lawmakers and a high-ranking member of the Chinese Communist Party, has resigned as director of the legislative commission of the National People's Congress, Peking Radio said.

Strike at EEC

Brussels, June 10. — Most of the 8,500 staff of the European Commission went on strike today and are threatening to continue tomorrow because of a dispute with the EEC's Council of Ministers over pay.

Lost symphony

New York, June 10. — A long lost symphony written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart in 1765 when he was nine will be given in the United States premiere at the Kennedy Centre in Washington on July 8.

Turks hang killer

Ankara, June 10. — Turkish authorities have hanged a convicted left-wing murderer. It was the sixth execution since last September's military coup, state radio reported.

Foot takes initiative on disarmament

From Paul Routledge, Brighton

Mr Michael Foot, the Opposition leader, has taken the initiative towards East-West disarmament talks by writing directly to President Brezhnev.

His intervention, designed to accelerate progress towards a full-scale summit on arms control and reduction, was disclosed in a speech in Brighton yesterday to the policy conference of the General and Municipal Workers' Union.

Labour's leader also reaffirmed his commitment to Britain going along in giving up nuclear weapons if the two super powers cannot reach agreement on scaling down the arms race.

"We should mobilise all our strength on this great issue," Mr Foot insisted. "And believe the way in which we can proceed forward will be a combination of trying to secure multilateral, international negotiations but in certain circumstances we should be prepared to take unilateral action to show we are serious."

"What we are fighting against is the wicked, evil fatalism of those who say that the nuclear arms race must be allowed to go on. The British Government, if it had any fitness to govern in this matter, would have replied long since to Mr Brezhnev."

"But because they have not, we in the Labour Party have replied and they will be receiving our letter in the next few days."

Mr Foot afterwards declined to be drawn on the contents of his letter beyond saying that it covered the areas raised by Mr Brezhnev in his approach to Western leaders for talks on curbs on military spending.

However, he added: "We want to get negotiations moving. When the Government talks

about the end of the year we don't think that is fast enough. The Government doesn't show enough urgency."

The Labour leader further revealed that Mr Brezhnev had written to him and to the leaders of other West European socialist parties seeking their support in getting disarmament negotiations off the ground, and that these leaders from Belgium, Norway, Denmark and Holland met for joint discussions three weeks ago.

Mr Foot's approach to the Russians, was the outcome of these discussions. "The only defence policy for Britain and the world is a disarmament policy, starting with nuclear disarmament and I believe you have to start right away."

Moscow, President Brezhnev denies that the United States has begun talks with the Soviet Union on limiting strategic arms and medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe, and describes talk in Washington of such a development as "only words". (Michael Binyon writes).

"I can say quite definitely that in all the time since the present American Administration came to power, to this day, no real steps have been taken on either of the questions by the United States," the Soviet leader said at a Kremlin banquet last night.

He said the United States used all sorts of pretexts to delay the opening of discussions. But the Soviet Union was ready for them at any time.

In his speech, in honour of President Chadi Benjedid of Algeria, who is on a visit, Mr Brezhnev also proposed measures to turn the Mediterranean into a zone of peace and stability.

Reagan stand on tax cuts unsettles Democrats

From Patrick Brogan, Washington, June 10

President Reagan has sent his tax cut proposals to Congress, and the Democrats are in confusion over what to do about them.

The President wants to reduce the average income tax by a flat 25 per cent over the next three years, and he may well have the votes in the House of Representatives to pass the Bill. Republicans control the Senate and Mr Reagan will have no trouble there.

He has already won a significant tactical victory, by allowing the Democrats to propose a compromise, and then rejecting it. Mr Reagan wants taxes cut by 5 per cent from October 1, and then a further 10 per cent on July 1, 1982, and a further 10 per cent on July 1, 1983.

The Democrats, who started off opposing tax cuts, thinking them inflationary, and then offering a one-year tax cut, proposed last week that taxes should be cut by 5 per cent this year and 10 per cent next as Mr Reagan wants, but that the third year should be left to wait on events.

They hoped that the President would accept the proposal and that they could therefore go before the electorate next year as responsible legislators, ready to relieve their voters' tax burdens but not to allow the budget deficit to increase.

Mr Reagan would have none of it, and the Democrats, who have already given up most of the ground, are left with a most precarious hold on the remainder.

There have been two humid periods this century, from 1917 to 1937 and 1949 to 1959, and both have shown slight dips towards drier years in the middle of the period. The two complete cycles of drought and humidity this century, from 1913 to 1941 and 1941 to 1975, are almost exactly equivalent to each other, making this one of the most perfect examples of climatic repeatability yet.

It is in fact the African monsoon, and such a near-geddy has never before been detected in monsoon movements. More over the source of the Senegal lies in highland regions enjoying quite high rainfall, so its flow does not directly reflect precipitation in the deserts.

There is also no understanding of the need for seven-year means, which happen to show the cycle most clearly. So while Faure and Gac's conclusions are sufficiently convincing to be worthy of scrutiny, they should not be taken by aid agencies as a signal to reduce support to the region over the next few years. Even scientists can be wrong sometimes.

Science Nature vol 291 p 475 (11 June 81).
©Nature-Times News Service, 1981.

Koch to stand again for mayor

From Michael Lippman, New York, June 10

Mr Edward Koch, whose first four-year term as Mayor of New York ends this year, officially declared himself a candidate for a second term today.

He seems certain to gain the nomination of both the Democratic and Republican parties in September's primaries, and would be the first candidate ever to defeat in the November election with the support of both.

CAMP DAVID SUMMIT SUCCESS

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, June 10

President López Portillo's state visit here over the weekend was a resounding success because the Mexican leader and Mr Reagan were both determined that the serious differences between them should not get in the way of good relations.

Mexico takes great exception to American policy in El Salvador and is worried about American moves towards Mexico immigration. There are differences between the two countries on oil supplies and they differ in their attitudes towards Cuba and the Caribbean.

Mr Reagan made good relations with Mexico (and Canada) a centre-piece of his presidential campaign when he announced his candidature 18 months ago. He met President López shortly after his victory, and went to meet him again, in Mexico, when he was shot and wounded. President López's visit to Washington was arranged to replace that lost summit.

President Reagan took his guest to Camp David, for a bucolic weekend unlike the usual round of formal meetings and dinners that are the staple of most state visits. They therefore saw far more of each other than would normally be the case — and they were riding together.

Mr Reagan agreed to go to the North-South conference in Mexico in October, an event that the Mexican considers of capital importance to their place in the world. In exchange, it was arranged that Dr Fidel Castro of Cuba would miss the meeting.

Leading article, page 17

Thai minister quits after accusations

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok, June 10

A senior cabinet minister recently accused in Parliament of involvement in what was called the irregular release of a foreign suspect in a drugs case, resigned from the Thai Government today.

Mr Prathum Krutibutr, who gave up his post as Minister of the Interior, the most powerful in the Government after the Prime Minister, has not publicly disclosed the reasons for his resignation.

Informed officials and politicians, however, believe the reason is the accusation made against him in connexion with the drugs case involving a young New Zealand tourist.

Mr Samak Sundaravej, a prominent MP and former Minister of the Interior, said in Parliament last month that Mr Prathum had been responsible for the irregular release of the New Zealander, accused of drug

Science report

Four more years of drought predicted

By the Staff of Nature

The long drought in sub-Saharan Africa, which has been causing immense hardship in countries from Senegal in the west to the Sudan in the east, may come to a temporary end in 1983, two French scientists who have been studying twentieth-century records of the flow of the river Senegal say.

Hugues Faure, a quaternary geologist at Marseilles, and Jean-Yves Gac, of the French office for overseas research at Dakar, have pored over discharge measurements taken from 1903 to 1980 at two sampling points on the Senegal, and detected what they claim to be a cycle of drought in the region. Severe droughts return every three decades or so, they say. The droughts last eight to twelve years, interspersed with "humid" conditions lasting about eighteen years. The region should now return to average rainfall by 1985, followed by a humid period, the next drought coming around 2005, the researchers say.

Those remarkable predictions are the result of a remarkable curve: the flow of the river Senegal averaged over seven years, and plotted year by year, shows a regular oscillation. That is to say, for example, that for 1950 Faure and Gac plotted the average flow of the Senegal from 1947 to 1953; for 1961, the average from 1943 to 1954; and so on. That seven-year running average flow shows a remarkably smooth and repetitive variation during this century.

Data for the rivers Niger and Chari, which with the Senegal drain most of sub-Saharan Africa, seem to be similar, the researchers say, although the complete cycle there are wide fluctuations in flow from year to year around the seven-year mean.

The mean flow shows a steep drop into drought (where annual flows are only half of those in humid times) and a slower rise back to rains.

There have been two humid periods this century, from 1917 to 1937 and 1949 to 1959, and both have shown slight dips towards drier years in the middle of the period. The two complete cycles of drought and humidity this century, from 1913 to 1941 and 1941 to 1975, are almost exactly equivalent to each other, making this one of the most perfect examples of climatic repeatability yet.

It is in fact the African monsoon, and such a near-geddy has never before been detected in monsoon movements. More over the source of the Senegal lies in highland regions enjoying quite high rainfall, so its flow does not directly reflect precipitation in the deserts.

There is also no understanding of the need for seven-year means, which happen to show the cycle most clearly. So while Faure and Gac's conclusions are sufficiently convincing to be worthy of scrutiny, they should not be taken by aid agencies as a signal to reduce support to the region over the next few years. Even scientists can be wrong sometimes.

Science Nature vol 291 p 475 (11 June 81).
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Others, however, may not be quite so confident. The sub-Saharan rains depend on northward shifts in the boundary of the African monsoon, and such a near-geddy has never before been detected in monsoon movements. More over the source of the Senegal lies in highland regions enjoying quite high rainfall, so its flow does not directly reflect precipitation in the deserts.

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US death penalty Bill

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, June 10

In a move which is bound to provoke an outcry from civil rights organizations and liberal Congressmen, the Senate judiciary committee has voted to approve a Bill designed to reduce the federal death penalty for crimes such as treason, espionage and presidential assassination.

Senator Strom Thurmond, a Republican from North Carolina, said the death penalty Bill was needed because of the great increase in crime in the country. He predicted it would win approval by the Senate but could run into tough opposition in the House of Representatives.

The Bill represents the most determined attempt to introduce a new death penalty law in Congress since 1977, when the Supreme Court invalidated all federal and state death penalty provisions.

The Bill would not apply to the great majority of murders which are committed in the United States because most of them are state rather than federal crimes.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT CHILD BENEFIT AND BENEFITS FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

Because of strike action at DHSS computer centres changes will be necessary in the way these benefits are paid. Please follow these instructions.

Child benefit.

- Until further notice do **not** send your order book to the Child Benefit Centre at Washington. Instead, contact your local social security office.
- Go to your local post office to get your benefit paid in the usual way.
- If your order book runs out you can still go to the post office to be paid. Make sure you take your old order book with you — and your second book if you have one.
- If your circumstances change you must still report it to your local social security office.
- If you want to claim child benefit for a new child you can do so in the normal way, but there will be a delay before you can be paid.

Benefits for the unemployed.

- Go to your local unemployment benefit office as usual. There you will be told how your benefit will be paid.

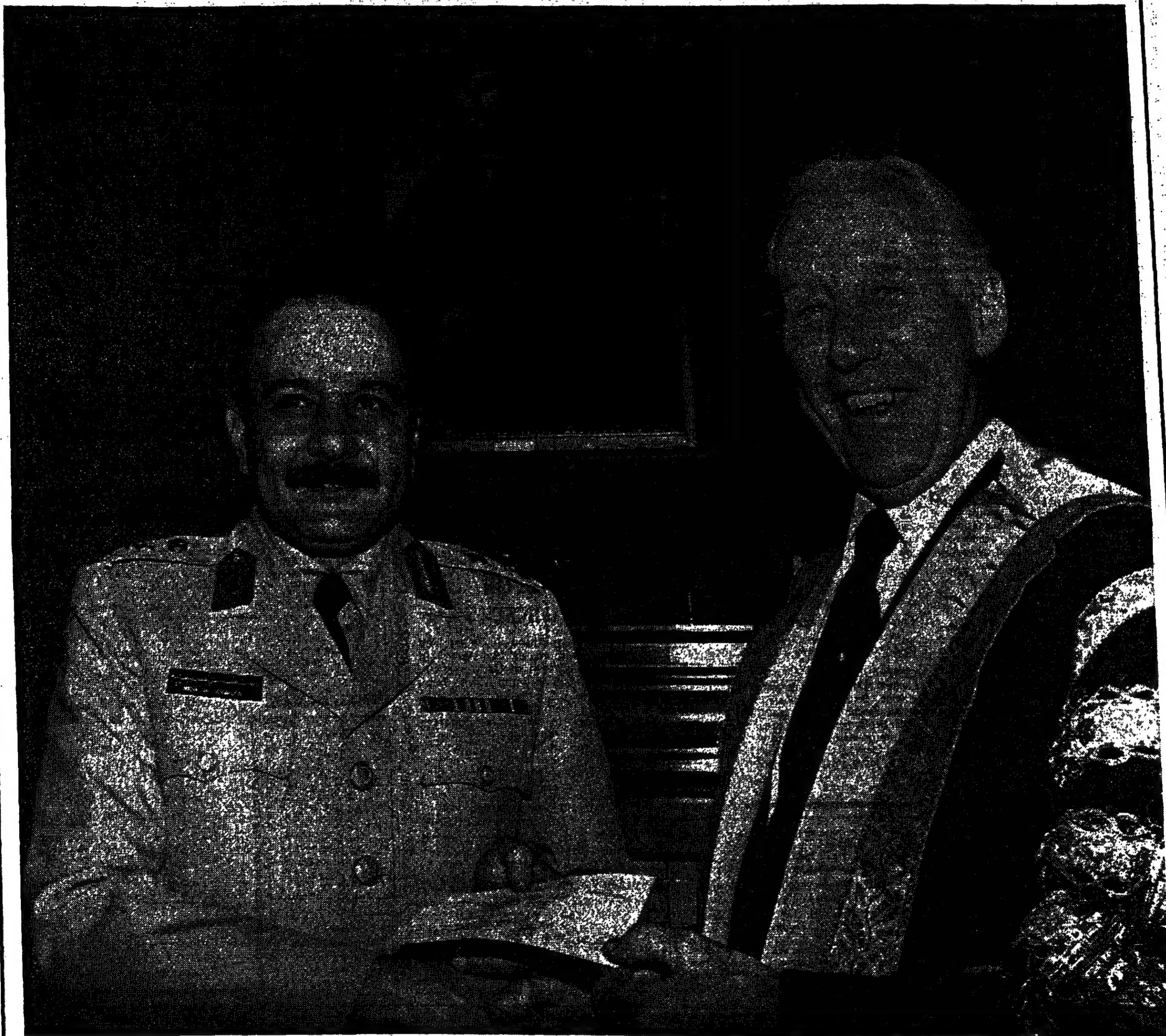
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SAUDI ARABIA

helps the world's surgeons



Major General Rida Khalifa, FRCS Ed, head of the Medical Services Division of the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Defence has been authorised by His Majesty King Khalid bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, Crown Prince Fahid bin Abdul Aziz, Deputy of the Council of Ministers, Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz, Chief of the National Guard, 2nd Deputy of the Council of Ministers, and Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Defence and Aviation and General Inspector, to make a modest donation of £350,000 to the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, the U.K.'s oldest medical institution founded in 1505.

The donation is intended to further the goodwill set up over the years and to develop further ties between Ministry of Defence and Aviation hospitals in every aspect of healthcare including such areas as research and training.

It is a natural inclination to look to the College for help because of its major contribution to the training of surgeons all over the world, an increasing number of whom are now coming from Saudi.

In practical terms, the donation is being used by the College for the restoration of the

disused St. Michael's church, which will be converted into a symposium and exhibition hall situated within the square adjacent to the main College building. In general this whole square is being redeveloped for postgraduate education at a cost of £1.6 million and will also include a group of 112 graduate residences, and administration offices. Eventually, this whole development phase is aimed at covering a wide area of medicine through to family practice. The result, it is hoped, will be the re-integration of medicine which in the past, because of rapid advances and increased specialisation, has been in danger of a lack of co-ordination.

In accepting the donation, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Professor John Gillingham, wishes to thank the Government of Saudi Arabia and believes that in doing so, it will help the College to play an even greater role in the education of surgeons, not only from Saudi Arabia, but from all over the world.

In recognition of the donation, the new symposium hall will be called "The King Khalid bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia Symposium Hall".

This advertisement is donated by Allied Medical Group, London, in association with the Saudi Arabian Government.

Recruitment Opportunities

HEALTH COMMISSION OF VICTORIA AUSTRALIA PSYCHIATRISTS

A number of positions are currently available or will become available for psychiatrists at the level of superintendents, consultants or junior specialists in the Mental Health Division of the Health Commission.

The Health Commission was formed to integrate all of Victoria's Health Services and appointees would be participating in a new stage of medical care with the development of psychiatric facilities in a much closer relationship of general medical facilities and the community. There has been considerable progress in the regionalisation of psychiatric services, most regions having available inpatient, day care, outpatient and community based facilities as well as links with general health and welfare services.

Positions are available in a number of regional cities including Warrnambool, Mildura, Bendigo, Ballarat, Geelong, Dandenong and Traralgon. Some positions are also available in the Melbourne metropolitan area. These positions are in the Forensic Psychiatric Services, the Alcohol and Drug Services and in general psychiatry.

Applications should include name, date and place of birth and nationality, recent passport photograph, address for communication and telephone number, details of medical education, including special qualifications, details of previous employment, names and addresses of 3 referees and should be forwarded to:—

Dr. J. Bomford,
c/o Mr. Eric Snewin,
Senior Migration Officer,
Office of the Agent-General of Victoria,
Victoria House,
Melbourne Place,
Strand,
LONDON, W.2.

Any enquiries can also be directed to the above named. Dr. Bomford will be in London from 13th to 17th July, 1981 and will be expecting to interview interested applicants between those dates.

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The Clerk to the Police Authority,

Municipal Buildings,

Middlesbrough, Cleveland

(0642) 248155 ext. 2015

by whom completed applications should be received by not later than 30th June, 1981.

C. J. A. Hargreaves, Clerk to the Police Authority

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Further particulars are obtainable from the Clerk to the Governors, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Ravel House, Museum Road, Portsmouth, PO1 2BG, to whom applications, naming three referees, should be forwarded not later than 19 September 1981, marked Confidential.

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The problems of under-achievement in two areas where equality still seems a distant prospect

Women at work: the five wasted years

Today the House of Commons will debate women. It is perhaps appropriate that what has been one of the bleakest periods for women—described by the Equal Opportunities Commission as the most unhelpful and least propitious five years in the entire post-war era—should be discussed in a forum where women comprise only three per cent—the lowest percentage of any European Parliament.

Women are unquestionably suffering more than men from unemployment and the debate offers a chance for the Labour Party to fire another broadside at Government economic policy. But it also coincides with the Equal Opportunities Commission's fifth year of existence and will focus attention on what women have, or have not, achieved since the Equal Pay Act 1970 and Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, is unequivocal in her verdict: "we have definitely gone backwards", she says. Women's earnings, after creeping upwards for a decade, have dropped and levelled out at around 73 per cent of men's. Women have borne a disproportionate share of unemployment; joblessness among women has risen from 22 per cent to 29 per cent of the registered unemployed in five years, and that does not include an estimated one million unregistered women.

And although women now make up 40 per cent of the work force, 55 per cent of female manual workers are in catering, cleaning, hairdressing and other personal services, compared with 47 per cent five years ago and 55 per cent of non-manual workers in clerical and related jobs (58 per cent in 1975). Only one in 12 managers are women, compared with one in ten in 1975.

Rising unemployment has also meant a severe curtailment in job opportunities for women because of the "pink pay" ceiling, which has traditionally filled by women. At the same time, inflation has increased the pressures on women to find work to help the household income.

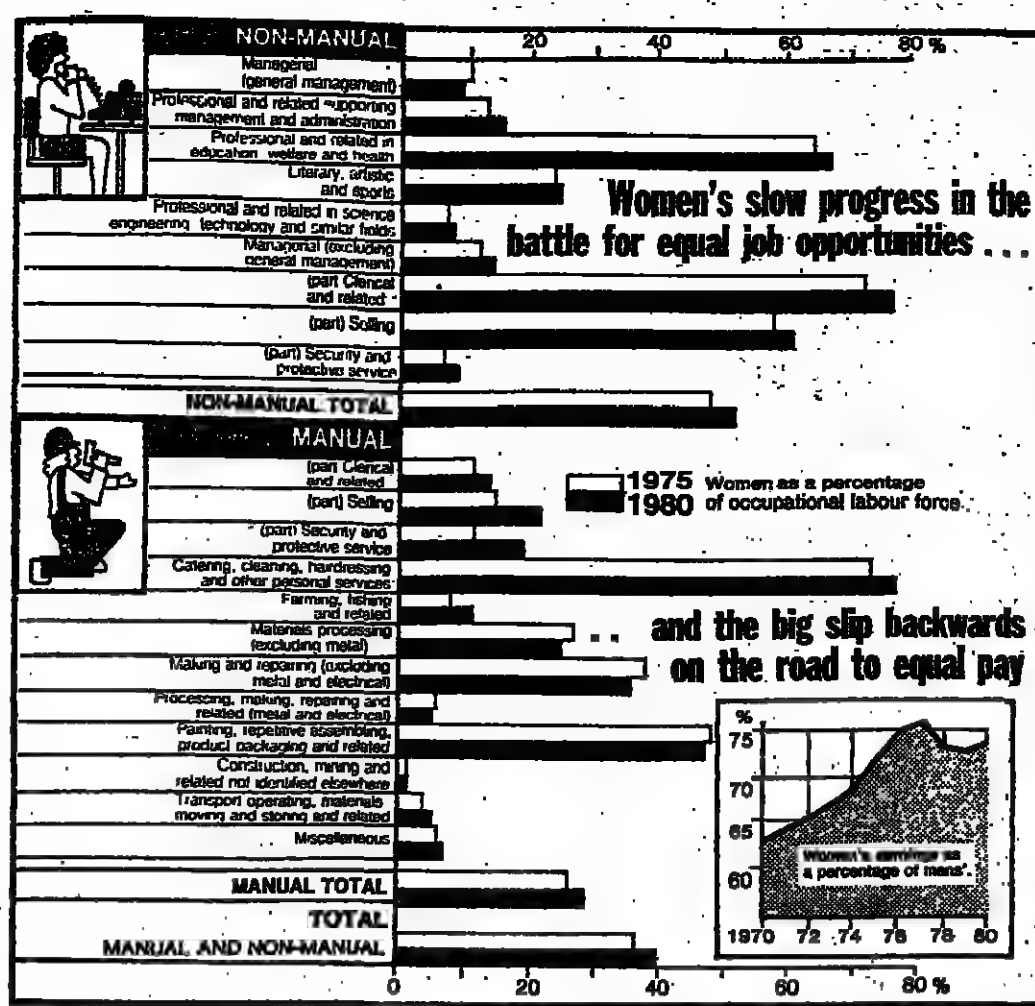
Again it is the women who are the hardest hit by the public sector cuts. Cuts in social services for the young, old and sick, such as nurseries, homes, help and day care centres, have forced women back into the home once more, to fill the gap left by the scaled-down welfare state.

Acts need to be strengthened

Much blame can be laid at the door of the Government's economic policies which have compounded the adverse effects of the recession. But the slow rate of progress over the past few years also calls for a fundamental questioning of the equality legislation itself.

The two Acts have been on trial for several years now and a kind of watershed has been reached: no further progress can be made under them, the Equal Opportunities Commission bluntly states, without their being toughened and it has put before the Government a list of amendments to that effect.

And, despite the usual fears that strengthening the law will further erode attitudes, there is a strong lobby of support among the Labour Party, TUC as well as right-wing and



and the big slip backwards on the road to equal pay

conservative women's groups. Without more teeth and a wider scope, the laws will be increasingly seen as irrelevant and useless, they say.

The EOC is attacked for being spineless and slow to act. The initiative, women want to see it acting more like a pressure group when it has all the weaknesses of a Government body. But nonetheless, it has achieved some victories. Two cases on aspects of equal pay have been won at the European Court of Justice, Luxembourg, and three others are pending, two on state retirement benefits.

It is severely hampered, however, by defects in the two Acts. The EOC Commission is even taking the Government to court over the Equal Pay Act because it does not fulfil European law; under the act, there must be equal pay for "broadly similar work", little help when men are hardly ever doing similar work. Women must be in the lower grade jobs and men in the higher grades. Under the EEC directive however there should be equal pay for work of equal value, which would allow comparison between different jobs.

Another glaring omission is that the Act does not deal with "indirect" discrimination; where jobs or promotion depend on factors such as length of service, which clearly militates against women who have left work to have a family and then returned.

As for the Sex Discrimination Act, very few cases have been won under this because of the difficulty of proof; a total of 24 per cent of the 405 taken to industrial tribunals compared with 35 per cent of the 705 won under the Equal Pay Act. As with race, an employer need only maintain that it was not a matter of sex, he simply preferred the other candidate, and nothing can be done.

On this, the EOC is pushing for the burden of proof to be shifted on to the employer, so that he will have to prove, per-

haps by his notes of the interview, why he ruled out one candidate as against another. That could have the adverse effect however of ensuring no woman was ever even shortlisted unless an employer was certain she was the one for the job.

But legislation, irrespective of whether or not it is strengthened, is only a part of the battle. Apart from the inherent weaknesses of the Acts, they are so narrow that they fail to cover major areas of discrimination: in social services, an area rife with anomalies, including two major benefits which are still discriminatory (invalid care allowance and non-contributory invalidity pension); in taxation, despite the improvements in the Government's Green Paper; in nationality law and immigration.

Attitudes the stumbling block

The biggest stumbling block in all this is still that of attitudes. In any profession or trade, women are still concentrated in the lowest ranks. Over 90 per cent of primary school teachers are women, but only 43 per cent of civil servants are women. In the armed forces, there are no women permanent secretaries and only three per cent of deputy secretaries are women, while 80 per cent of the clerical assistants are women.

Although things have improved in schools and the tendency to insist that girls do "cooking" and boys "woodwork" has largely gone, traditional attitudes among pupils themselves, parents and teachers ensure that old patterns of training and employment persist.

Boys still outnumber girls at all levels of further and higher education and still predominate in the sciences, while girls predominate in the arts. In 1970, 21 per cent of engineering and technology students were girls, but in language,

literature and related studies they comprised 57 per cent. In 1978, the figures were 55 per cent and 65 per cent respectively.

The same applies on the TOPS training scheme, with women overwhelmingly concentrated in colleges where they follow traditionally "female" courses such as shorthand and typing, although more are now taking skills and crafts courses.

So the depressing conclusion is that despite some breakthroughs, women have got stuck in the same old jobs as air pilot, station master, seamstress and so on, and as well as the most obvious of all, Prime Minister—there is still a long way to go.

It is still almost impossible for women to combine a career and a home. Crèches are rare and most employers look askance at the idea of job sharing and flexible hours. If a woman leaves to have children, her career prospects are irretrievably blighted and she never catches up.

Within marriage, tax laws still ensure a woman is dependent on her husband and even if divorced, maintenance laws ensure a continuing financial bond.

The next five years are likely to see a shift away from change through legislation to change through influencing attitudes. The idea of statutory quotas, or enforcing firms to take a proportion of women, has little support, although the Labour Party and some women's groups back the idea of so-called "positive" discrimination. It is recognized, must come about through education, and above all through women themselves.

Teachers, journalists and advisers are at a loss to give prejudices that anyone else. But at least there are now enough women among them to start the ball rolling.

Frances Gibb

Race or racism: why do black children fail to come up to the mark?

A hideously difficult—perhaps impossible—task faces the troubled committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities which meets today for the first time under its new chairman, Lord Swann, Provost of Oriel College, Oxford, and former chairman of the BBC.

The committee has just two years in which to try to explain why children in certain racial groups do less well at school than those in other groups. Yet, despite decades of research, we still have no clear view as to why any category of child fails at school. It is a highly controversial area that the committee has entered, and to introduce the additional, acutely sensitive issue of race turns it into a minefield.

It all proved too explosive and intractable for the committee under the chairmanship of Mr Anthony Rampton, and most of the fundamental issues such as the relationship, if any, between intelligence and race, and the effect of a child's home and cultural background on his educational development were either fudged or ducked completely in the committee's interim report on West Indian children which is due to be published next week.

The committee which was set up in 1979 during the last months of the Labour Government had an uneasy beginning. Some of the West Indian members were at first reluctant to accept that they had received assurances that the inquiry was not going to be "just another whitewash"; and after they had agreed to serve, they were subjected to criticism in the West Indian community that they had "sold out" and were behaving like Uncle Toms.

That background is important in order to understand Mr Rampton's overriding concern to hold together the disparate elements of the 18-member committee, which included four West Indians and three Asians, and to produce a unanimous report which he believed was essential if it was to be acceptable to black and white communities, and if the credibility of the committee was to be preserved.

The result was a report full of compromise and incongruities which helped convince the Government that it should replace Mr Rampton by a bolder, perhaps less sensitive, chairman.

One of the main casualties of the compromise was the importance attributed to the influence of the West Indian "people's home" and cultural background on their performance at school. The fourth draft, for example, suggested that two groups, the "home background" and "achievement" of West Indian pupils, were at the heart of the underachievement of West Indian pupils.

In the final report, however, the conclusions contain no reference to "home background". Most of the blame for the poor achievement of West Indian pupils is placed on racism, both institutional and "individual", together with "negative teacher attitudes", and an inappropriate curriculum.

It leaves unexplained the stark difference in the performance of West Indian and Asian pupils. A survey carried out for the committee of school-leavers' examination results in six English urban education authorities showed, for example, that 20 per cent of Asians achieved an O level "pass" (grade C or higher) in mathematics or its CSE equivalent compared with only 5 per cent



Photograph by Jonathan Player



Lord Swann, who today starts his controversial job of discovering why West Indian pupils do not do as well as other schoolchildren.

of West Indians; 13 per cent obtained one or more A levels compared with 2 per cent of West Indians; and one in 12 Asians went on to a degree course compared with one in 50 West Indians.

Commenting on these findings, the fourth draft stated: "If racism and its effects on the confidence of the black child were the overriding reasons for the underachievement of West Indian children, it should equally affect the achievement of Asian children in our schools, for Asian children are almost as much the target of racial prejudice. . . . The reason for the difference lies, we believe, partly in the different expectations of teachers, but mainly in the different character of the two migrations, in the economic circumstances of the West Indian family and in the different cultural traditions of the Caribbean and Indian subcontinent."

It pointed out that an unusually high proportion of West Indian women went out to work. According to the 1971 census (latest figures available), 68 per cent of married West Indian women were in employment, compared with 37 per cent of Indians and a national average of 42 per cent. The incidence of one-parent families was 13 times higher among West Indians than among Asians (according to a 1976

survey); one in seven West Indian families had only one parent compared with one in 11 of all families in Britain.

West Indian children came disproportionately from families who found it difficult to provide them with sufficient "adult time" in which to talk, play and read with their children, while the results of the West Indian children under the age of five are probably the most vulnerable and deprived group in society. Although their parents wish to do all that is best for them, the cultural and social pressures they face place them and hence their children at an immediate disadvantage.

There is no mention of that in the final report. The West Indian members on the committee in particular took exception to the suggestion that West Indian parents were in some way inferior to other parents. They feared that by laying the blame at the door of the West Indian community itself, the committee would be playing into the hands of the "racist lobby" who would then argue that the West Indians must help themselves as there was nothing the white community could do.

The interim report retains some of the factual material on the West Indian family background, though it omits the comparisons with Asian families. Like the fourth draft, it draws attention to the apparent lack of appreciation among West Indian parents of the crucial importance of the contribution they could make to their children's education progress.

But it draws none of the conclusions already referred to in the fourth draft, and omits the first two recommendations in the fourth draft which stated: "West Indian parents must appreciate the importance of the child's pre-school years and must seek to help their children's development of the opportunities offered by education; and the West Indian community should seek to find ways to help parents to understand the value of developing their child's communicative skills."

In the final report, the onus for improving the West Indian child's early experiences is placed entirely on local authorities who are exhorted to make better provision and do more to publicize their services.

The fourth draft was largely the work of Jim Rose, former chairman of Penguin Publishing and co-founder of the Runnymede Trust, who chaired the editorial committee on the interim report. He, together with two other white members has since resigned. All said they were unhappy about the sacking of Mr Rampton.

Mr Rampton and most of the remaining committee members claim that the omission of the home background factors from the final report's conclusions was not because of pressure from the West Indians, but because a majority of the committee felt that the committee had insufficient evidence about the correlation between West Indian pupils' home background and their school performance to justify saying anything definite about it. They therefore agreed to defer that point for consideration in the committee's full report on all ethnic minorities.

If that were the case, however, perhaps they should have deferred comment too, as the correlation between racism and school performance on which there is also little hard evidence. And they should not have assumed so easily that the low achievement of West Indian pupils necessarily equaled underachievement as they had gathered no firm statistical evidence to prove that West Indians are in fact performing at a level below their capabilities.

Lord Swann starts with certain advantages: he has simple experience of chairing difficult committees, though little first-hand experience of race relations; he has been promised the resources to commission any necessary research which the committee under Mr Rampton's chairmanship were unable to obtain; and his name will help ensure that the committee's next report is heeded by the white community. However, he will not find it easy to produce a report as forthright as the Government appears to want without antagonizing large sections of the black community.

Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES The London Science Centre APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR The Foundation for Science and Technology, established to promote technical and scientific education, is seeking a Director. The Director will be responsible for the overall management of the Centre, which is currently under construction. The Centre will provide a wide range of facilities for the education of young people, including a large lecture hall, a computer centre, a library, and a range of laboratories. The Director will be responsible for the recruitment and management of staff, and for the development of the Centre's programmes. The Centre is a charitable organization, and the Director will be responsible for the financial management of the Centre. The Director will be a member of the Council of the Centre, and will be responsible for the implementation of the Council's policies. The Director will be a full-time position, and the successful candidate will be required to travel frequently. The Centre is a leading organization in the field of science and technology education, and the Director will be responsible for the Centre's reputation. The Centre is a charitable organization, and the Director will be responsible for the financial management of the Centre. The Director will be a member of the Council of the Centre, and will be responsible for the implementation of the Council's policies. The Director will be a full-time position, and the successful candidate will be required to travel frequently. The Centre is a leading organization in the field of science and technology education, and the Director will be responsible for the Centre's reputation.	PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS MATHS TEACHER Leading North Surrey (day) prep. school seeks first class mathematics teacher for September. Public school scholarship teaching of high order required. Please reply to Box 0235 G, The Times.	SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS The London School of Economics and Political Science THE LSE 1980s FUND: REES JEFFREYS ROAD FUND AWARD Applications are invited for the Rees Jeffreys Road Fund Award. The award is for a student who has achieved a first class honours degree in a relevant subject. The award is for a student who has achieved a first class honours degree in a relevant subject. The award is for a student who has achieved a first class honours degree in a relevant subject. The award is for a student who has achieved a first class honours degree in a relevant subject.	DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS LAWYER German speaking Au pair for one year. To begin August. Excellent three small children, own room, large town within easy reach. Kress, Burgweg 75, 5400 Koblenz/Rhine W-Germany. Phone: 0261 25174, 54 71.	COUNTRY PROPERTIES NEWPORT ISLE OF WIGHT Superb 5-bedroomed house, built 1970, better equipped than most. Large garden, swimming pool, tennis court, kitchen, utility, 2 bathrooms, 1 en suite, 1 toilet. Gas central heating. Double garage. 10 mins. town centre. Perfect for family or holiday home with outbuildings planning on part of. £75,000 OR £85,000 WITHOUT PLOT 0983-522290	OVERSEAS PROPERTIES SWITZERLAND FOR SALE - Exclusive freehold property Investment and second home MONTREUX Luxury lakeside apartments, in a brand new 5 storey building, each with its own private garden terrace overlooking Lake Geneva south towards the Swiss and French Alps. Only 45 minutes motorway drive from Geneva airport. Montreux itself has great attractions both for business and leisure. VILLARS Exclusive 1 to 5 room apartments in traditional Swiss chalet buildings. Each chalet has between 5 and 8 apartments only. Individually set in almost 200 acres of lightly wooded alpine parkland facing south with beautiful views to Mont Blanc and the alpine chain. These homes offer a chance to live in peace with the world; pretty in summer, breathtaking in winter - yet little more than an hour from Geneva airport. Designed and built by our own craftsmen, all our apartments offer genuine luxury. Additionally, interior design can be completed to meet your own choice where required. Swiss government/banking regulations: all are fully complied with for sales of property to non-Swiss nationals. Mortgages: up to 65% over 25 years, current interest rates 6.5% p.a. Renting: our associate company provides a fully managed service. For full details of all our properties please contact Mr. Christian Marich in London at The Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1. (telephone 01-629 8888) from Tuesday 9th to Thursday 11th June. Direct sale from the Owner Builders Immobiliere de Villars SA - Sodim SA P.O. Box 62, 1884 Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland. Telephone: 010 41 - 25/35 35 31. Telex: 25259 GESER CH.
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Theatre

The traditional clown revealed in Beckett

Waiting for Godot

Round House

Claims for this play as a great veritable routine are apt to strike all but Beckett's admirers as cultural proselytizing, like recommending Stravinsky for his catchy tangos. There are not many productions that raise as many laughs as an average piece of stand-up comedy, but this version — launching the wonderful clown partnership of Max Wall and Trevor Peacock — certainly proves that Beckett can hold his own with Muir and Nerdin or any other gag-factory you care to mention.

On its first appearance last November at the Manchester Royal Exchange, Bramham Murray's production sprang the initial surprise of presenting Mr Wall's Vladimir as the straight man to Mr Peacock's Estragon, the idiot who gets the laughs. That is still the basis of their partnership, and it faithfully reflects the textual relationship. Vladimir is the one with a sense of duty, who never forgets why they are waiting or what happened the day before; while Estragon cannot keep an idea in his head for more than a minute, apart from his invariably thwarted plans of escape.

However, the original outlines are now luxuriantly swathed in fertile comic business, supplying fuel after fuel between Beckett and traditional clowning. When Vladimir hands his partner the carrot, he is sprayed with it three times as

Estragon replies with his mouth full. The hat-changing routine has been elaborated into juggling and conjuring tricks. One phrase in French prompts a gag, and the other a gag. The insult game becomes a formal duel at six paces, and amazing things happen with Gogo's boots.

The invention is all perfectly in harmony with the play and strengthens the sense of desolation that prompts the gag.

The partnership is a good example of the quantitative theory of acting: namely that the best performances are those that pack in the greatest number of experiences into the shortest time. In the case of Wall and Peacock there is always the lurking fear of silence; and when, for a moment, there is a panic, material strikes, eyes bulging with terror, before words again come to the rescue.

Comic routines apart, the relationship is established in a beautiful series of recurring patterns: a flirtatious courtship dance before the daily hug, Mr Peacock's aghast reaction, hand to open mouth, at each reminder why they are waiting, the crescendo of laughter leading to Mr Wall's emergency prostate exit.

There are also two well considered performances of exceptional talents which reflect the racial diversity of New York, and the Guildhall students cope very well under the professional direction of Spencer Butler.

Trevor Peacock (left) and Max Wall in *Waiting for Godot*

Irving Wardle

Runaways/Tomorrow Today

GSMD/Soho Poly

Twice the students of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama have arranged a treat that the impresarios of the London stage have overlooked. Elisabeth Swados is probably the finest talent in the New York musical stage to have appeared, since Stephen Som-

dehlin, but in London she is not a shadow of her controversial New York self, with none of her work ever displayed. On Tuesday the Guildhall students gave the British premiere of her musical comedy, *Runaways*, which was made up of specific stories taken from life, from interviews with runaways made by Miss Swados. Her command of musical idiom is wide, as likely to embrace African or oriental rhythms as disco or Broadway sounds. In *Runaways*

the songs are tailored to individual voices which reflect the racial diversity of New York, and the Guildhall students cope very well under the professional direction of Spencer Butler.

There is a lack of structure to the show which could easily dispense arbiters of traditional taste, but there is no lack of coherence. Runaway children bind themselves together in a culture which includes prostitution, drug-taking, and in New

York, the artistry of graffiti. Miss Swados binds them together with angry and witty musical lines, and poetically edited speeches. If the Guildhall show suffers, it is from a failure to confront the harshness of the material. Their taste is excellent.

A theatre which has always made way for young people and young writers is the Soho Poly. Even with the sardonic and recent loss of Verity Burgin, it is still turning out aggressive and imaginative productions.

A group marooned in mediocrity

Moody Blues

Albert Hall

Taking the Moody Blues apart would, at this point, be a fruitless exercise. The tide of rock has long since left them marooned, along with their audience; it is extremely unlikely that they will ever again find themselves back in the mainstream, in a position to influence events or to increase their following.

They certainly pleased their existing fans on Tuesday night, after all they performed favourites like "Nights in White Satin" and "The Balance", and that is enough for some. After observing them closely for two

hours, however, I must say that they fall below the standards of musicianship and presentation expected from bands of their type and experience.

The general air of uninvolved indifference hardly helps. Was Justin Hayward, whose clear voice is their most attractive single feature, enjoying himself? His mind seemed to be elsewhere. They did not acknowledge the presence of Patrick Morris, who pulled out every keyboard cliché in the pomp-rock thesaurus in a diligent attempt to animate the music? Does Ray Thomas's brommy sarcasm stem from a self-consciousness for his work, as seemed probable?

By the end one had grown quite fond of John Lodge, the bassist, who was alone in his

desire to convey some sort of warmth across the footlights. He had the evening's best song, too, in the lyrical "Talking Out of Turn". This comes from their new album, *Long Distance Voyager*, which was heavily featured, down to a trilogy by Thomas which begins with a song combining the mannerisms of Jacques Brel and Ken Dodd, and ends with the ludicrous self-consciousness of "Veteran Cosmic Rocker".

The final impression, gleaned from "I'm Just a Singer in a Rock and Roll Band", "Steppin' in a Slide Zone" and others, was of an utter lack of drive in the up-tempo songs, a deficiency compounded by the outstandingly poor sound quality.

Richard Williams

Arts agenda

Blow to hopes of high-quality States classical theatre

As Broadway applauds the Tony awards to the National Theatre's *Amadeus* and the Royal Shakespeare's *Pier*, rather less attention is being paid to the collapse of an American project which hopes to produce work of a similar standard in New York. With David Jones, an associate director of the RSC, as artistic director, the BAM Theatre Company was launched in 1979 with the aim of providing "an American classical theatre of the highest quality". The company was planned for an initial three years, but the Brooklyn Academy of Music has decided that there just is not sufficient money to fund the company for a third year.

The first season won critical plaudits, but the second provided fewer successes. And Jones says people seemed unable to appreciate the way in which a company developed gradually. "The whole New York atmosphere is very impatient, success or failure. A lack of star names was also a hindrance. He still believes there is a need for such a company, and points to the upsurge in the subscription audience in the second season, but he doubts that the current political climate in America is conducive to such a heavily subsidized endeavour.

Jones will not return to Britain immediately although he is due back next year to direct two BBC television Shakespeare. He is currently in Los Angeles seeking to set up a production of a new work by a young American playwright, Richard Nelson, which applies the Rip Van Winkle myth to contemporary America. The play was to have been the centrepiece of the third BAM season.

John Percival

Dance

Friendly flexibility

David Gordon/Pick Up Co.

Riverside

I cannot think when I saw a dancer with as much poise as Valda Setterfield. She looks as though she would be as much at home at a Buckingham Palace ball as in a shipwrecked police station, relaxed, courteous and assured. Also, she moves always like a dream. She is the star (if you can have one in so casually democratic a group) of the Pick Up Co. dance troupe, and her husband David Gordon, and his choreography subjects her to almost as many demands as the contingencies already mentioned.

At one point, for instance, she and Margaret Hoeffel subject each other brusquely to a rather tough work-out while pursuing a relaxed, courteous conversation about their mothers. Words play an important part in Gordon's work, never as explanation, sometimes as distraction, often twisted quite otherwise than as you would expect.

He has even invented one where a dancer based on a punning mime gestures to illustrate a story which all six performers tell at different speeds, like a group of amiable lunatics playing charades, and himself a burly, bearded, somewhat very

determined performer, Gordon offers his work as if it were all a joke, and because of that he can smuggle quite a lot of original ideas in without scaring his audience, since although it is always experimental it is also always entertaining.

There is little in the way of recognizable conventional dance in his programme at Riverside Studios (which runs until Sunday), but it is all based on using a variety of training and a mind as flexible as the body. Dressed in casual dance clothes, all black or white, without scenery and almost without music, the company give eight items in an overlapping collage with only one interval to make up a show which I found friendly, skilled and thoroughly enjoyable.

After the success of the *BFI Film Festival*, the reaction of *Napoleon*, which is now on tour in America, the BFI is planning to present another silent film classic with full orchestra at this year's London Film Festival. While there may not be another *Napoleon* awaiting rediscovery, the institute believes much of the excitement last year was because people saw a silent film as it was originally shown, with a live orchestra. So it is examining various films, with

the possibility of commissioning a new score for the selected work.

Ideally it would like a film previously seen only in a poor print or a shortened version — one which can be revealed in a fashion close to its original glory. King Vidor's *The Crowd* is one film under consideration.

When Jack Rosenthal's musical *Bar Mitzvah Boy* proved a success in 1978, the author was determined to salvage something from the wreckage: his first stage play which tells the story of the creation of a British musical, complete with characters not totally unrelated to those involved in *Bar Mitzvah Boy*.

While many will visit the Great Britain Exhibition, at the Royal Academy later this year, to see the paintings and sculpture, exhibits like this suit of armour seem likely to prove an equal attraction. Made of black and silver, with leather plates, it dates from the late sixteenth century.

Harding's first play, *For Coats and No Knickers*, packed the theatre but was thought "too northern" for the West End, although it is about to go on a national tour. But there is great interest from London audiences in *One Night Stand*, a comedy about a struggling pop group in the 1960s.

Later in the year the Coliseum will present the European premiere of a new work by Martin Sherman, whose play about homosexuals in a Nazi concentration camp, *Bent*, won international fame. His latest piece, *Cracks*, is very different: it is an outrageous spoof of the typical Agatha Christie whodunnit.

Martin Huckerby

Concerts

Curiously obvious

LSO/Kleiber

Festival Hall

Replacing Karl Böhm on the podium in front of the London Symphony Orchestra on Tuesday, Carlos Kleiber made each item on his programme seem like a study in orchestral playing. In the slow introduction to Weber's *Freischütz* Overture the unanimity of the strings' attack and the tailing-off of their phrases really were remarkable, were the steep descent and falls both of volume and intensity.

Again in this slow introduction, the entry of the horns created a most striking effect of atmosphere, and of intense concentration. One relished, too, the jewel-like placements of solo woodwind phrases, and the whole was reminiscent of a freshly-cleaned oil painting. Yet some of the dramatic contrast seemed curiously obvious, and it was as if Mr Kleiber's sharp focus on detail resulted in something that was disconcertingly literary.

Schubert's Symphony No. 3 was an unexpected choice, and there is not a lot to be said about this piece, except presumably by students of the development of the teenage composer's style. One does not want to

sound ungrateful for such outstanding orchestral playing, every facet being meticulously shaped, yet the effect was somewhat unchanging.

For the slow movement Schubert substituted a 24 Allegretto that was, again, most beautifully played but which should have been more relaxed, strongly infused with a jolly clarinet tune. All the contrasts in the peasant-dance-like Minuet were duly stressed, and if the finale was not too fast for its position, it was certainly not too fast for its music.

Possibly this conductor adopts such rapid tempos in an attempt to recreate the impact the music may be thought to have had when it was new. Such tactics are hardly appropriate for early Schubert, yet might seem plausible for middle-period Beethoven or Brahms. Kleiber's reading of Symphony No. 7 fulfilled the expectations aroused by his famous recording, these being positive for the rest of the audience and, strongly negative for me. It was, yet again, a very considerable feat of playing on the part of the London Symphony Orchestra. But the character of so much of the music was misrepresented.

Max Harrison

Elisabeth Söderström

Wigmore Hall

To the naked eye, the programme of Elisabeth Söderström's concert on Tuesday, with Martin Isopp, looked like a scholarly historical and geographical exercise. Its first half dealt with Scandinavian song around the turn of this century, after the intense case of Hungarian song, Liszt followed by this year's centenary Bartók.

Devotees might have known that the pleasure principle dominates over the intellect in this charmingly informal, artistically self-demanding soprano. Two of Grieg's most captivating songs stood at the centre of the Scandinavian group: "Lof der Ullend" (a German poem by Ullend) and "Last Spring". She compared Steinhamer's dramatic setting of Josephson's

"Flickan kom ifrån", with the one by Sibelius known to many of us as "Black Roses", not superior but a glorious end to the first half. A group by Petersen, a German composer, included some of Söderström's contemporary songs (eg. "Twilight Fancies"), as well as with Grieg.

There was, similarly, a point of contact to be made in all the songs, each of them with a précis, but for to name the poets, as important as composers in art, is to miss the point.

Bartók's *Village Scenes*, commencing with a flawless English, did not truly suit Söderström's voice, which sounded rich and expansive, but often slightly flat in the middle register, as sometimes in the first half. The character of each scene, not only in Bartók's set, was instantly and completely projected, verbal inflections vivid and poignant.

William Mann

BBCWSO/Groves

Llandaff Cathedral/Radio 3

In his Symphony No. 10, given in its first performance on Tuesday at the opening of the Llandaff Festival, for which it was commissioned, Daniel Jones achieves a strong clarification of style with a disciplined economy of expression. This is a logical culmination of a long development, the complexities of his symphonies (the first appeared in 1944), the personally felt poignancy of the fourth (1954), in memory of Dylan Thomas and the structural originality of the sixth (1968) now yielding to a terse argument.

The four movements take only 20 minutes but embody much of the composer's familiar method. This includes rhythms based on alternating metres (though less noticeably so), the reconciliation of opposites (dissonances which fall naturally within melodic lines), clearly stated tonality and a dramatic climax, but all refined into a concentrated pattern which holds the attention. The tension eases only momentarily in the last movement, elsewhere the pressures

are insistent, and the third movement a passacaglia on an idea of Brahmsian gravity given out by the lower strings, is mastery.

The movements are headed "soloma", "menacing" (the expected Daniel Jones scherzo, but darker than its predecessors), "serious" and "agitated". A tolling bell and a commanding trumpet motif claim the symphony's serious intent at once, and return at the close to underline the unity which is one of the strongest features of a work of powerful impact.

A successful premiere was assured by the commitment of the BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra, under Sir Charles Groves, an ardent Jones champion who has already recorded three of his symphonies. One hopes they will be joined by the newcoming Welsh composer, most enthusiastically applauded.

Conductor and orchestra provided for Barbara Gorynka's erratic account of the Mendelssohn Violin Concerto an accompaniment, most amounting to a rescue act, and a richly coloured performance of the Dvorak Symphony No. 7.

Kenneth Loveland

Piano Extravaganza

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Sixteen gleaming pianos, generously loaned by Steinways, made an impressive sight together on the platform at the Park Lane Group's Grand Piano Extravaganza on Tuesday. It was a cheerfully outrageous way to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the lively organization, which through its Young Artists and Twentieth-century Music Series, its opera company, and its own Park Lane Music Players, so enhances our musical life.

Giving their services free, so that more of the evening's profit could benefit the Sunshine Fund of the Royal National Institute for the Blind, were 31 eminent pianists. Some, like Susan Bradshaw, John Ogdon, and John McCabe have gone on to great reputations with the Park Lane Group, establish enviable reputations as exponents of new music. Others are relative newcomers, like Keith Burston, who last January gave a masterly performance of Stockhausen's *Klavierstück X* under PLG auspices.

This birthday party had nothing as serious. Propriety scarcely had a role in it, certainly not in Mozart's Concerto for

Three Pianos, in whose first movement the orchestral part was taken, for good measure, by yet another three. But authenticity was achieved, if not in a tan-piano arrangement of John's "Mozart Lesson" or for that matter in Susan's "Stars and Stripes Forever", here played by six solo and four orchestral pianos, then at least in James P. Johnson's rag "Carolina Shave" played by Keith Nichols and by his alone.

More seriously, Christopher Green-Armytage had been chosen by draw to represent the present generation of young artists. He gave to the C-sharp minor Scherzo a mature combination of warmth and brilliance in a meticulous reading.

The revels, though, were to conclude with a flourish of hilarity flattered by Fauré's little joint enterprise with Messager, "Quadrille: Souvenirs de Bayreuth" for piano quartet, by Chopin's "Pavane" for four hands, and by a musty arrangement of "The Ride of the Valkyries" for a mere eight pianos and a rather long-looking percussionist. But, because of the traditional dramatic soprano, the *Walden* overture, here using all 16 instruments and conducted by Sir Colin Davis, was, for want of a better description, devastating.

Stephen Pettitt

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Boston has long been hospitable to early music, both because of the presence in the vicinity of numerous instrument-makers and because of the consequent growth of organizations which perform in the city, in Cambridge and in the suburbs. It was therefore entirely in keeping that an early music festival was presented there, a festival which included performances, lectures and symposia as well as exhibits of instrument makers from here, Europe and Japan. It is hoped that the festival will become a bi-annual event.

The Banchoche Musicale, a Boston-based early music group, in conjunction with the Boston Lyric Opera, presented Monteverdi's *L'incoronazione di Poppea*, in the Boston University Theatre, in an edition prepared by the Banchoche's founder and director, Martin Pearlman. The spare orchestral forces kept the focus on the singing, and the evening was presented (by both orchestra,

under Pearlman, and singers) in a way which was never anti-Baroque, always alive and, in Pearlman's hands, cogent and understandable. The drama of Busenello's libretto was ever to the fore, and if some of the singers (all from the Boston area) were less assured on stage, or working with an alien tradition, the evening was a vindication. It is that is necessary today, and it is the values of the great score in period clothes.

Jack Eddleman, the producer, sought to work in a tradition not his own, and at times the dichotomy was evident, notably in his staging of the Nerone scene as a drinking bout with intimations of an incipient orgy, which is very much in the current vogue but not really indicated by the text. Yet Eddleman's restraint and taste

worked to advantage, particularly in his handling of the final act. Pearlman should be encouraged to stage further works of this and somewhat later periods.

A group, comprising the Boston Camera, the New York Camera, and the Harvard-Radcliffe Collegium Musicum presented, in Jordan Hall of the New England Conservatory, a splendid tribute to Venice in its days of glory. The music of the Gabrieli, Monteverdi, Vivaldi and assorted lesser luminaries resounded through that stately Victorian theatre. Much of the credit for the evening belonged to the organization and conducting of the Camera's music director, Joel Cohen. Each section of the concert had its own identity and shape, so that a piece such as Monteverdi's

Chione d'oro was followed by his setting of the *Beatus Vir* which uses the same theme to differing emotional ends. The careful rehearsal of all parts added to the enjoyment.

From the many exquisitely built viols, harpsichords and fortepianos I ventured across town to another century. Sarah Caldwell's Opera Company of Boston, now in its twenty-third season, has recently installed itself in the old Savoy Theatre, renamed the Opera House. This pile, built in the 1920s for the International Opera Company, is a gem of a theatre, from where I was sitting in the front balcony just about every word of Verdi's *Otello* was audible.

The *Otello* was memorable less for Caldwell's production or for its singing than because

Patrick J. Smith

NEW BOOKS

His own worst enemy

Monty: The Making of a General, 1887-1942

By Nigel Hamilton

(Hamish Hamilton, £12)

Hagiography is the occupational disease of the official biographer, and there are good reasons why Mr. Hamilton might have succumbed. He was not born at the time of Alamein (with which this first volume ends); not, indeed, until 1944. Through lack of wartime experience — and the scepticism it generates — his judgment might well have been affected by his warm friendship with Montgomery and by the fact that his father, Sir Denis, was able to see his own relationship with the Field Marshal to acquire for the Thomson Organisation in 1962 the great mass of Monty's private papers. But not the least of Mr. Hamilton's achievements in a remarkable book is the establishment of his own credibility. Throughout, it is evident that he is acutely aware of those flaws in his subject's character which puzzled or embittered his contemporaries and which have made him easy prey for later iconoclasts. I served under Montgomery most of the way from Alamein to the end in Germany, have written studies both of him and of Rommel, and have kept abreast of the relevant literature. I conclude that of all the books about him this is the most accurate, the most explicit, and by far the most illuminating. It is very long, it is bursting with new material, and the narrative, though fluent and engaging, is sometimes prolix and repetitive. Mr. Hamilton's old head is on young shoulders, and his ardour to explain and simplify contrasts uncomfortably at times with a maturity of mind which seems in total command of its theme and eminently sensible in its verdicts. No matter. The interested layman will be fascinated, and professional students will find here a mine of fresh information within which they can hack away happily for years. The irrepressible enfant terrible always wanted to make a stir. He failed to cut off Rommel or to get to Arnhem, but this time he has attained his objective. As Monty's biographer Mr. Hamilton faced two unavoidable problems: psychological explanation of a character so

complicated and wayward that some (we learn) thought him mad, and technical analysis of a military commander's performance which, though outstanding, was less than his own vainglorious pretensions. The portrait of the man is all-important, since depreciation of Montgomery's generalship has too often been founded on the distaste or contempt generated by a personality that even the long-suffering Eisenhower could tolerate no more. Mr. Hamilton has to account for a man who was his own worst enemy.

Montgomery's latterday revelations about early mistreatment by his mother always seemed to be hysterically high-pitched. But Mr. Hamilton's fully documented expose of an extended love-hate relationship leaves no doubt that here is the heart of the matter. From the wound of rejection many derived both their lifelong quest for affection, often infantile in its naivete, and also that ruthless determination to show that he too could "come good". The Bishop's wife married her son. It is moving to observe, in the revealing letters which he wrote to his mother during the first world war (and which have never been previously published), how even in Armageddon he is making a play for the love he denied.

In the last boyhood of Jesus Christ was betrayed.

Montgomery's sense of loss, conscious or unconscious, was no crucial factor in his career, perhaps, now view with a larger charity all the perverse, petty, fatuous, self-advertising and even vicious traits which his biographer recognises as clearly as did his enemies. Commanders are still human beings. Slim was blessed with a stable temperament; Mountbatten had a maelstrom within. Patton and his wife were beat inside. Mr. Hamilton has served Montgomery well by re-affirming the nature of his particular demon. The passionate and monk-like commitment to professional perfection was, at least in part, an attempt to exorcise it. Much new light is thrown on that devouring exercise in self-education, and military colleges could well take Mr. Hamilton's narrative as a text-book demonstration of "the making of a general". Alamein was climactic: the consummation of a learning-process. Mr. Hamilton has done his homework thoroughly; his immensely detailed account of what happened

after Montgomery arrived in Egypt in 1942 is buttressed by fresh and telling quotations from the relevant War Diaries and other documents, and interviews with key figures of irreproachable authority who seem to have decided that here, at last, was the time to speak out. Few battles have been more analysed than Alam Halfa and Alamein, but now, it appears, we shall all have to go back to square one.

Certainly those writers who, relying too much on second-hand evidence from sacking and second-rate generals, maintain that after Auchinleck's "victory" at the so-called "first battle" he had a specific and viable plan for defeating Rommel's next offensive — which Montgomery "stole" — or that the Eighth Army was then in anything but disarray, with further retreat a known possibility, will have to think again. Mr. Hamilton's accumulated testimonies are decisive: no one, for example, can deny the absolute authority of Field Marshal Lord Harding as it is now disclosed. It confirms what those of us who were in the desert at the time sensed after Monty took over: a sea-change was happening, and there was a different, invigorating tang in the air.

It is impossible to summarize the many new, and sometimes disquieting, insights into Alamein. Montgomery's positive attitude towards the Ultra intelligence, for example, will surprise those who claim that it was dismissed. The grave inadequacy of the senior armoured commanders was known, but it is stunning to discover that the withdrawal of our tank divisions from the battle-line was not, as is usually assumed, an effort to create a reserve force for further attacks, but an act of despair about their lethargy. There is much meat here for contentious historians.

Monty's faith was that his private papers would vindicate him. So far, this seems to be the case. And his biographer deserves praise for finding a major operation according to the Field Marshal's basic principle. I want to see him in his last days. He was in bed, with a portrait of his father the

Right Hon. Sir Winston Churchill, and a portrait of the Pope on the other. "Ah," I thought, "There you are, planning as usual the next battle with one thing in mind: Balance."

Ronald Lewin



O what can all this, knight at arms... In the long, hot summer of 1858 Edward Burne-Jones found himself much in the company of the formidable Sara Prinsep, Egeria of the salon that gathered in her home, Little Holland House. He was introduced by Rossetti, his master and hero. Mrs Prinsep did not think Rossetti a suitable influence on the delicate young painter, and moved Burne-Jones into the house for several months to be nursed and kept in the right company. About this time he made up the Little Holland House Album for Mrs Prinsep's youngest sister, Sophia, the youngest of the seven little sisters who played such an important role in mid-Victorian cultural life. It transcribes eight romantic poems, each with graceful pen-and-ink drawings in illustration. They have never been published before, but now appear in facsimile with an introduction and notes by John Christian — the first publication of a new private press. The Dalrymple Press of Leichie, North Berwick, in a limited edition at £25.

Stands Scotland where it did?

The End of British Politics?

By William L. Miller

(Oxford, £17.50)

Is Britain one nation, or two, or many nations? Have the social and regional differences so evident in the behaviour of the electorate in 1979 come to erode that sense of belonging to a single country, which writers such as George Orwell noticed as a defining feature of the British mind? The End of British Politics? is concerned with one central aspect of this question: its aim is to outline the specifically Scottish dimension of the British mind, and to show that the gap in attitudes between the English and Scottish voter is at least as great as that between different social classes. Indeed, Miller believes that the Scottish dimension will again come to threaten, as it did between 1924 and 1929, the very existence of Britain as a United Kingdom.

The Parliamentary Union of 1707 joined Scotland and England politically, while leaving Scottish civil society untouched. Paradoxically, however, twentieth-century developments have served to narrow the social differences between English and Scots, while drawing them apart politically. The expansion of government and its centralization in Westminster and Whitehall have eroded the vigour of Scottish local institutions, for in Scotland, as Walter Elliot noticed, nationalization meant de-nationalization — less accountability rather than more. Belief in the virtues of central planning became an essential

element of political Union. When Scottish politics obstinately refused to turn, he attributes the defeat of devolution to essentially short-term factors — resentment at public sector strikes, and the unpopularity of the Callaghan government — but it is at least plausible to explain the strong demand for devolution between 1965 and 1974, and the spectacular growth of the SNP in 1974 in terms of an increase in Scottish self-confidence now shattered by mounting unemployment and industrial closures.

Miller's belief is that Scottish and English political attitudes will continue to diverge, and he offers persuasive arguments in support of this view. Indeed, the recent repeal of the Scotland Act was itself a symptom of the gap in attitudes since a majority of Scots voters had endorsed it, and Scottish MPs opposed its repeal by 41 votes to 13. George Younger, the Secretary of State for Scotland, enjoys the support of only 22 Conservative MPs in Scotland, and this makes him less a representative of Scotland to the Cabinet than a prefect imposed by an unpopular government upon an outlying region of the country.

The End of British Politics? is a powerful plea for recognition of the urgent need for constructive constitutional change in Scotland, although Miller is realistic enough to appreciate that "the record of British governments in squandering precious resources of peaceful times gives no ground for optimism."

Vernon Bogdanor

Naked at the Feast, the biography of Josephine Baker (Robson, £7.50), reprints the original text of the book, published on June 25.

years in the slumbers for allegedly whacking the local butcher over the head is, so to speak, and as some of us say, out of sight. The Str Problems are wonderfully convoluted, and the author's wit is well displayed in private pilgrimages to Cell 273 come six self-serving characters to confide, in reports which read like Pirandello scripts for the Marx Brothers. Each is snatched from the jaws of the law by powers of deduction which make Mr Hercule Poirot's little grey cells seem downright inadequate.

"But I still believe, sir, that a man has to shift for himself." Don Isidro has found prison a good place to learn about the world. Mr Borges then a Cerebus of sanity. His collaboration with Adolfo Bioy-Casares whirled with Norman Thomas di Giovanni's AmerEnglish has a keen edge of satire and wit. There is not as illusion in sight. A return ticket, please.

Gay Firth

The Matriarch

The Queen Mother By Elizabeth Longford

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £7.95)

Lady Longford is herself, of course, the literary world's surrogate Queen Mother. Marrying a large, noble and talented family (not without its own black sheep), she radiates the kind of very personal charm even the most cynical cannot resist, and long after the generation behind her has come to the fore, she continues to maintain her own standards of productivity and excellence. If there is, therefore, some disappointment that this book does not approach the scale and thoughtfulness of her earlier biographies, there is meanwhile the consolation that no one can be better qualified to chronicle the life and times of Queen Elizabeth, in many of Lady Longford's more eccentric musings — "how strange" it was, she declares, that Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon should become Queen only 14 years after marrying the Duke of York — one senses the author turning the mirror upon herself.

This is not a year for expressing reservations about the Royal Family, nor has there ever been a year when there was any mileage in attacking the Queen Mother. Godfrey Talbot's saccharine volume for *Country Life* three years ago plumbed the depths of royal sympathy. Lady Longford, more appropriately, simply gives credit where it's due.

Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon did not want to become a Princess. She subscribed to the dictum of the late Princess Alice: "None but those trained from youth to such an ordeal can sustain it with amiability and composure." Mrs Diana Spencer, we should hardly note, has been trained to it from birth. So, at first, she turned down the proposal of King George V's younger son.

When he begged her into accepting, she became the making of the man. This sky, stammering, insecure figure, soon to become King George VI's wife, grew eventually into the nation's rallying-point in its darkest hours. His wife, during the war, anticipated Nancy Reagan by keeping a revolver by her bed; how typical of her not to use it, merely press the bell, and have a husband and a protector, her Buckingham Palace bedroom.

Anthony Holden

Inside the insider

Destination Peace

Three Decades of Israel Foreign Policy

By Gideon Rafael

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £14.95)

From the contemplative, faintly quizzical expression of Ambassador Rafael's photograph on the back cover you might suppose that this memoir was merely another diplomatic odyssey from one remote post to another. You would be wrong. Mr Rafael's career in the Israeli Foreign Service began in a ramshackle little house on the outskirts of Tel Aviv in May, 1948, as the Arabs were about to attack, on "Opening Night at the Foreign Ministry" — the title of his first, admirably light-hearted, chapter. It ended four years later — in 1974, while peace negotiations with Egypt were still under way and with ultimate settlement of Israel's frontiers or future still uncertain.

In the 30 years between Ambassador Rafael himself regularly attended all the United Nations meetings from 1948 to 1974. He was in charge of Middle East affairs at the United Nations from 1954 to 1957; Deputy Director from 1960 to 1965 and Director-General (Permanent Under-Secretary) from 1965 to 1974. No Israeli diplomat with the possible exception of Abba Eban has been more at the heart of Israel's crisis-ridden diplomacy from its earliest improvisations.

Since the author was certainly an insider of insiders his book, described in sub-titles as "Three Decades of Israeli Foreign Policy" and "A Personal Memoir" could be exciting, but it would be naive to expect that, and the expectant reader will be disappointed.

A. M. Rendel

The BBC

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Nicholas Kenyon traces the growth and progress of the BBC Symphony Orchestra during its first fifty years. He tells of its early successes; the trials of wartime life; Sir Malcolm Sargent's celebrated quarrel with the BBC; and the influence of Sir William Glock in the Sixties. He also introduces great conductors who have worked with the Orchestra. There is a foreword by Sir Adrian Boult, and useful appendices listing the Orchestra's members, recordings and first performances.

£22.50 from booksellers

Nicholas Kenyon retails the whole story with candour and thoroughness, and also with grace and wit.

—Paul Griffiths, The Times

Louis Heren

Alternative Raj

A Biographical Dictionary of the British Colonial Governor

Volume 1: Africa

By Anthony H. M. Kirk-Greene

(Harvester, £40)

In death as in life, it is the Indian Empire which excites the British when they contemplate their imperial experience, juniper fire and verandah tea. Cawnpore, Mrs Hawke, the Far Pavilions and all the other imperial myths. A pioneer in this promising safari is Anthony Kirk-Greene of St Antony's College Oxford, himself a *quondam* District Officer, who has made a specialty of a kind of socio-political-anthropological study of British administration in Africa. He calls it propo-

graphy, and it consists of a minute examination of the minds of men who ruled the 20 odd African possessions seized by the British at one time or another. This is a harder job than it may sound, for colonial documentation was unexpectedly patchy, colonies repeatedly changed names and status, titles varied from one possession to another, and some colonialists it seems were not above slighting fudging their entries in *Who's Who*.

Mr Kirk-Greene, though, is nothing if not a stickler, and his book is striking evidence of his perseverance, for it gives us in effect all known biographical and official details about every British Governor who served in Africa between the 1870s, when the Crown really became the Colonial Power, and the end of the empire in the 1960s. It is not a volume likely to find its way into many private libraries, but it will clearly be invaluable to all future students and celebrators of the British Empire. Its author boasts endearingly that from it you may discover

the professions of gubernatorial fathers-in-law, or the frequency with which Governors married widowed ladies, or the body of ill-dead-and-entertained. How marvellous that Edward Twining, one-time Director of Labour in Mauritius, should have become Lord Twining of Godalming, and how splendid that Charles Elliot, Commissioner of the British East Africa Protectorate, should be such an expert on Buddhism, Fimian grammar, and the life of the sea-slugs! Mr Kirk-Greene is not absolutely infallible. He mis-titles Mr Philip Mason's most famous book, and he evidently does not realise that Brigadier-General Valsgjaard Gouldsbury, former Administrator of The Gambia died during home leave from St. Lucia in 1897. But his book, to be followed by a second volume on the Eastern Hemisphere, is as complete a source-book as almost anyone could wish — a treasury of characters for future novelists, a mountain of fuel for future historians' computers and Associate Professors' eager seminars.

Jan Morris

Fiction

Noble House

By James Clavell

(Hodder & Stoughton, £8.95)

Trade Wind

By M. M. Kaye

(Allen Lane, £7.50)

Swan's Wing

By Ursula Sygne

(Bodley Head, £4.95)

Six Problems for Don Isidro Parodi

By Jorge Luis Borges and Adolfo Bioy-Casares

(Allen Lane, £5.95)

Science fiction

God Emperor of Dune

By Frank Herbert

(Gollancz, £6.95)

The first three volumes of the Dune Saga reached a plateau of astonishment in world-making which made it one of the most remarkable SF's most remarkable

Ilusion stalks those of us who bracket our quest for novel-reading on the Central Line. Escalator ads become dust jackets in disturbing *déjà vu*. Fellow travellers slump into stories. Force-fed with fiction, incipient dementia, interpolated, dotted double exposures: book titles more plausible than actual ones. If *Cheap Day Return* and *One Russell Hobbs Deserves Another* have not come up for review, it is only a matter of time.

Until the quiet men in white coats arrive it seems possible still to believe that neither these, nor Auntie Mabel is deft enough to suppose that James Clavell's 1,115 pages and M. M. Kaye's 551 add up to more than a row of beans. These are blockbusters. It does not follow that blockbusters are two cents' worth of entertaining — never mind meritorious — fiction. I would not give *Swan's Wing*, still less, Jorge Luis Borges' elegant extravaganza,

achievements. This raises it all to a pinnacle of speculative fantasy, which is at least level with Asimov's great Foundation Trilogy; later consideration may reveal that this has outpaced the other. The reader will find himself overwhelmed by intellectual and emotional shockwaves for a long time after an ending which is unique in this kind of literature.

We are three thousand years from the original sand-travelled planet of Arrakis: that sand has been gusted away by Mr Herbert's imagination, which now sees the planet ruled by Leto, seemingly immortal after a symbiotic union with the giant sandworm which makes him a vast tubular creature with only a human face to tell of origins. To many he is a tyrant worm, but his ways have purpose in moving humankind forward into new patterns of living.

The author uses the device of Arrakis and Leto as philosophical tools to examine, dismantle, established ideas of religion, government, love, determinism, free will. These are dissertations layered with narrative which envision the essential spirit that requires Leto to be sacrificed, destroyed before a new life form assumes control: the worm? the bud finds the

for a wilderness of blockbusters. *Noble House* comes fourth in an historical series set in Mr Clavell's less than mysterious, more gratuitously vulgar visions of the East in this case, Hong Kong. It is about money, kidnapping, money, espionage, fire, murder, landlady and money, with little bits of what you fancy on the side. The text is as good as if by computer. The action (trackless Colonial, international, and Chinese double-dealing) covers only a week.

Of Miss Kaye's sallies into the alleys of logical fiction, the most in charity be said that *Trade Wind* was heavily edited for first publication in 1963. Set in slave-trading Zanzibar in the mid-nineteenth century, now part of the last ruling pain fraud and either twang of the original writing; it piggybacks upon enormous tales.

Her prose style must in charity be added to that for which Miss Barbara Cartland is famous. It is a tale of two pilgrims. Lotar wanders, seeking relief for his affliction: a swan's wing in place of an arm. The story is safe with a more admirable exactness of language, gravely, by Matthew, master maker of

lasting glories in stone to adorn the shrines of the dead. There is a heroine called Hero, a narrative notable for lace handkerchiefs, lingering kisses, and curt laughs, and a quantity of colonial tropes, including a body of ill-dead-and-entertained. How marvellous that Edward Twining, one-time Director of Labour in Mauritius, should have become Lord Twining of Godalming, and how splendid that Charles Elliot, Commissioner of the British East Africa Protectorate, should be such an expert on Buddhism, Fimian grammar, and the life of the sea-slugs!

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Jan Morris

Great expectations

The State of the Presidency

By Thomas E. Cronin

(Hutchinson, £8.95)

When President Johnson was in the White House he began a library on the Presidency, and had a standing order for every new book on the subject. Presumably his successors cancelled the order because such is the attraction of the institution for political scientists, politicians, and journalists that the collection would now be overflowing into the executive office building next door.

Thomas E. Cronin is a member of the importance of the office. For instance, its powers are supposed to be strictly defined in the Constitution, but since 1933 they have changed a good deal more than those of the Prime Minister, and are still changing under the present incumbent.

In fact, the office of Prime Minister has long been more presidential in that the occupant of No 10 has far more power, relatively speaking, than

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PARLIAMENT June 10 1981

Minister sees little need for extra rate levies

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, stated in the Commons that he was concerned at reports that a number of local authorities intended to levy supplementary rates this year, although he had no official notification of their intention to do so.

He hoped that any such authorities would reduce their proposed expenditure in the course of reviewing their budgets as the Government had requested, and that such reductions would remove the need to levy a supplementary rate.

Mr. Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on environment, criticised what he called a black-market circular being sent by the Department of the Environment to local authorities threatening to send in auditors.

Mr. King replied that it was a technical circular for borough treasurers about which there had been misunderstanding.

He said that some new draconian steps by the Secretary of State.

In exchanges about the situation in London, Mr. King said that the Government was not aware of any such situation. He said that the Government was not aware of any such situation.

Mr. King: Whether there is any need for a supplementary rate is a matter for local authorities to decide. I do not believe it is impossible.

LOCAL FINANCE

Mr. Robin Squire (Haverhill, Huntingdonshire, C): I accept the Minister's statement that the Government is not aware of any such situation. I am sure that the Government will take any steps necessary to ensure that the situation is resolved.

Mr. King: I recognise that London has lost some share of the grant.

Mr. Squire: I am sure that the Government will take any steps necessary to ensure that the situation is resolved.

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Pollution control is reviewed

WASTE

Commitments of industrial waste imported in recent months indicate that some provisions of the Control of Pollution Act, including those governing temporary storage, may not be working as intended.

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said the Department of the Environment intended to take steps to prevent the importation of industrial waste from abroad.

He said that the Department was aware of the fact that some industrial waste was being imported from abroad.

Mr. King: I can confirm that this is a technical circular. It is a technical circular. It is a technical circular.

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Law Report June 10 1981

Court of Appeal

Doctrine of unity rejected as a medieval fiction

Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd and Another v Green and Another (No 3)

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Fox and Sir Geoffrey Baker.

A husband and wife can be liable for the tort of conspiracy even though they are the only parties to the conspiracy.

The Court of Appeal held in dismissing an appeal by Mrs. Beryl Rosalie Kemp, the second defendant, from the refusal of Mr. Justice Oliver (1979) Ch 495 to set aside an order for an inquiry as to damages for an action made against her in an action defended by her, her defence having been struck out.

The action had been commenced by Mr. Thomas Geoffrey Green, against Mr. Walter Green, his father, and Mr. Robert Derek Green, the executor of his mother's estate. Mrs. Kemp became a defendant to the action in 1975 as the executrix of Mr. Walter Green.

Mr. J. L. Munby (who was not instructed until 1978) for Mrs. Kemp, Mr. Jonathan Parker, QC, and Mr. Malcolm Waters for the plaintiffs.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that in March 1981, the court agreed to grant his son Geoffrey an option to purchase Grange Hill Farm, Thornton-le-Moor, Lincolnshire. The option was to remain effective for 10 years. The court then agreed to grant the option to his son Geoffrey.

In August 1967 Walter Green defeated the option by conveying the farm to his wife Evelyn for £500 although it was worth £400.

In 1970 Geoffrey brought an action against Walter and Evelyn's estate claiming that the option had not been exercised, that it had been exercised by his father, and that he was entitled to specific performance of the agreement to sell the farm to him.

Alternatively, Geoffrey claimed damages for conspiracy, and that the court should order an inquiry as to damages. The court then agreed to grant his son Geoffrey an option to purchase Grange Hill Farm, Thornton-le-Moor, Lincolnshire. The option was to remain effective for 10 years. The court then agreed to grant the option to his son Geoffrey.

Meanwhile, Walter had died and his daughter, Mrs. Kemp, the present appellant, was granted probate of his estate. As his executrix she was in the position of defending a defence of the action. Eventually the House of Lords held in *Midland Bank Trust Co Ltd and Another v Green* (1981) 2 W.L.R. 25 that the court should order an inquiry as to damages.

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was that the doctrine of unity between husband and wife was established in English law and that the doctrine of conspiracy could not be applied to them. One of the ramifications of the doctrine was that husband and wife could not be conspirators.

The authorities showed clearly enough that medieval lawyers held that husband and wife were one person in law and that the husband was that one.

That was a fiction then and it was a fiction now. It had been so eroded and cut down by statute and had so long ceased to be true in fact that his Lordship would reject it.

Nowadays, both in law and in fact, husband and wife were two persons, not one. They could jointly or severally own property, enter into contracts or commit crimes.

The severe law was in all respects so complete that his Lordship would say that the doctrine of 'unity' and its ramifications should be discarded. It was a fiction, not a fact, and it was a fiction that should be treated in the same way.

So far as the criminal law was concerned, a husband and wife could be found guilty of conspiring together. That was now statutory: see section 2(2)(a) of the Criminal Law Act, 1977. But his Lordship would reject the submission that the doctrine of conspiracy should be treated in the same way.

The tort was a modern invention and consisted of concerted action taken by two or more persons pursuant to an agreement between them with the dominant purpose of damaging another and actually damaging him. There was no good reason for applying the doctrine of unity to the modern tort.

The allegations against Walter Green and his wife were correct. They did a grievous wrong to Geoffrey. Both were now dead but Walter's estate at least could be made liable and Mrs. Kemp's recourse would be against her father. She failed to plead *adversus mundum*.

LORD JUSTICE FOX, concurring, said that at the end of a journey through some seven centuries of authorities it was clear that the doctrine of 'unity' was a medieval fiction which directly determined that a husband and wife could not, by themselves, conspire together so as to be liable in tort for conspiracy.

The water was, therefore, at large. His Lordship did not think that the unity principle could simply be applied mechanically to the tort of conspiracy. No doubt the law was in a state of confusion, but the doctrine of 'unity' was a medieval fiction which directly determined that a husband and wife could not, by themselves, conspire together so as to be liable in tort for conspiracy.

SIR GEORGE BAKER, concurring, said that the law adapted and developed to the needs of living people whom it was not necessary in tort to treat as dead. The doctrine of 'unity' was a medieval fiction which directly determined that a husband and wife could not, by themselves, conspire together so as to be liable in tort for conspiracy.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was refused. Solicitors: Lee, Bolton & Lee; Sidney Torrance & Co for J. Levi & Co, Leeds.

Ex-wife's lump-sum claim postponed

Hardy v Hardy

Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice Waterhouse.

The Court of Appeal said that although there was no order of divorce, the wife's claim for a lump sum was postponed.

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In due course the husband filed a divorce petition and in July 1980 a decree nisi was granted under section 1(2)(c). The wife gave notice of her intention to apply to have her position considered under section 10.

The court had been told that the wife's solicitors believed the practice in Nottingham in dealing with section 10 applications was to treat them as if they were applications by the wife for periodical payments, and lump sum and/or property orders under sections 23 and 24 of the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, to which the case the practice was manifestly wrong and required revision.

Evidence was filed which showed that although the husband had no capital assets, he had a substantial income. The wife had moved to a rented house and was in receipt of social security. When the matter came before the registrar, Mr. Martinuau applied for the wife's application for a lump sum to be adjourned generally so that she could make the application when the husband had assets.

The registrar refused and went on to consider the application for a lump sum. Having considered the evidence, the registrar found that the wife's application for a lump sum was not justified. He made a declaration that the husband was the sole owner of the property.

The decree was made absolute and by the time the appeal came before Mr. Justice Ormrod the wife's position had gone.

There were no circumstances which would justify the registrar's order. The wife's application for a lump sum was not justified. He made a declaration that the husband was the sole owner of the property.

Demands for end to sex and race discrimination

Women and the ethnic minorities occupied a large proportion of the workforce in the manufacturing sector. In the House of Lords on June 10, demands were made for an end to sex and race discrimination.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that the Government was not aware of any such situation. He said that the Government was not aware of any such situation.

Lord Denning: I am sure that the Government will take any steps necessary to ensure that the situation is resolved.

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Not so fast over water summonses

Some water authorities are now reviewing the speed with which they issue summonses to those who have not paid their bills. Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

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Rules about spectators not applied

The problem of the unruly behaviour of football spectators has been reduced if the strict regulations for spectators at football matches are not applied.

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

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Rates system change more urgent

A change in the domestic rating system is more urgent as rates level are higher than could possibly be justified, Mr. Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said.

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Rights of parents of handicapped child

The Government accepted a new clause to the Education Bill to give parents the right to be informed when a child is placed in a special school.

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

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Amendments warning

The police, citizens and shopkeepers all have their own ideas as to what is the best way to deal with the problem of the unruly behaviour of football spectators.

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

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Tough regime extended

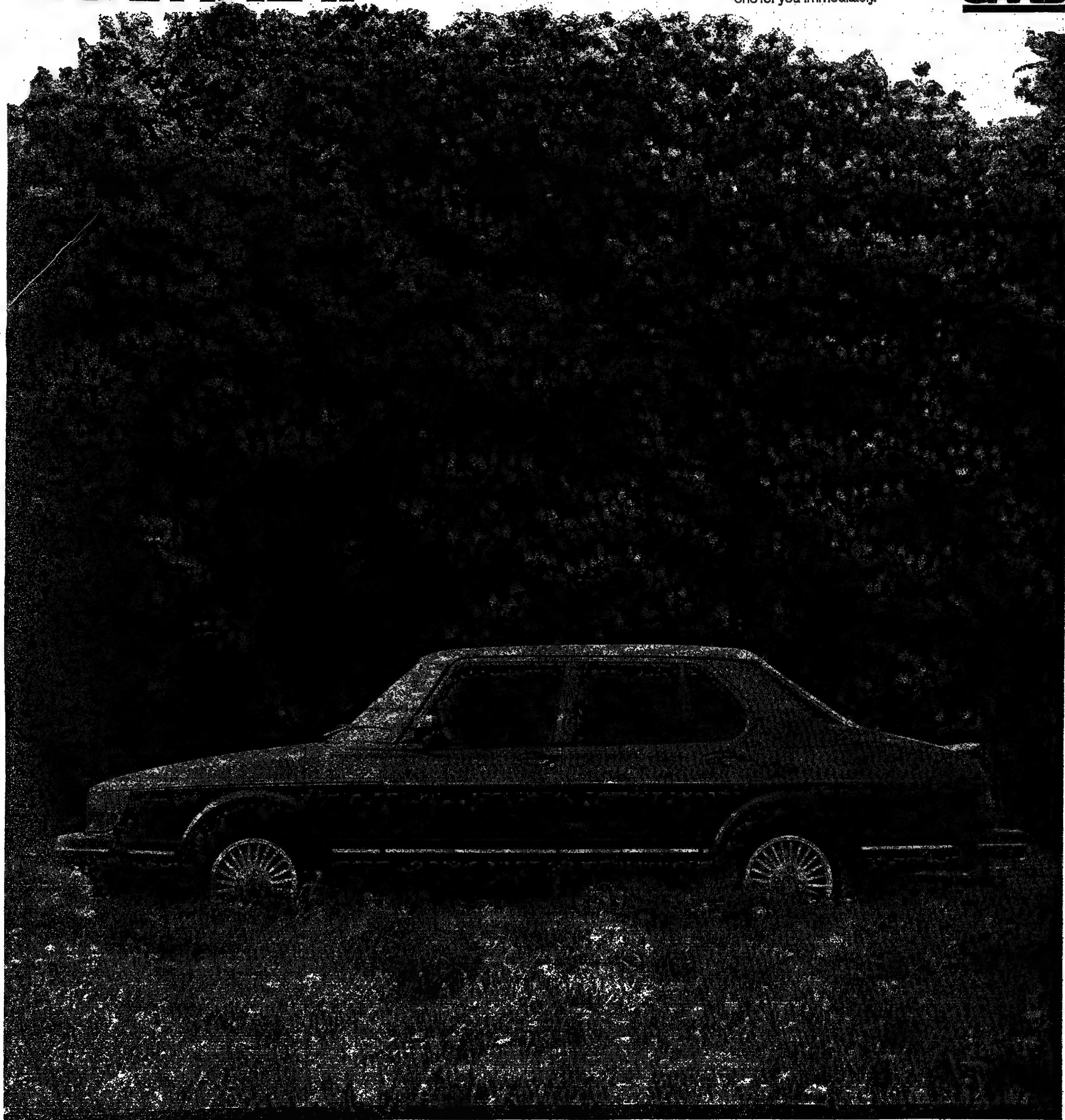
The Home Secretary intends to introduce the tougher regime for the detention of foreign-born offenders in the Detention Centre for Foreign-Born Offenders in the Home Office.

Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said during questions.

Mr. King: I am sure that the

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IRELAND GOES TO THE POLLS

Mr Haughey's governing Fianna Fail party has lost ground to its main opponent Fine Gael, led by Dr Garret FitzGerald, but there is ground to spare before it loses office — an overall majority of 17 in the previous Dail, which was an exceptionally wide majority by Irish standards. As the Republic goes to the polls today it looks like a close-run election.

The first concern of British observers has been that the campaign, coming at a time of particular difficulty in Northern Ireland, should not be swept along by anti-British passion or rabid republicanism that would still further unsettle opinion in the North; that the leaders of the major Irish parties should not be blown off their generally moderate courses in respect of partition and cross-border security; and that candidates who are front men for the Provisional IRA should not call the campaign tune nationally or even locally.

So far, all that goes the campaign has been quite as reassuring as could be expected. The fumes of the wine of nationalism did not render the voters insensible to their bread and butter, which normally determines the southern Irishman's non-ideological choice of government; on this occasion, prices (inflation runs at an annual rate of about 20 per cent), jobs (nearly 12 per cent of the registered work force has no job), and bounty for farmers (they have seen the purchasing power of their incomes fall by a half in three years).

If the Republic's corps of professional economists had had their way it would have been not bread and butter but bread and water. The timing of this otherwise inopportune election was dictated by the rapidly approaching necessity for government to regain control of the public finances. The balance of payments deficit is running towards a level equivalent to 13

per cent of the national product, and public borrowing towards a level equivalent to 18 per cent, while foreign indebtedness mounts monthly. If Dublin does not soon get a grip on these trends international financial institutions will force its hand.

For Mr Haughey on the hustings the world recession was the culprit, while his government was gallantly seeking to shield Irish industry from its worst effects and protect the "social benefit classes". Dr Garret FitzGerald had greater freedom to enlarge upon the gulf opening under their feet, but he too was inhibited by a 72-page policy for turning things round while promising something for everyone, including allowance for stay-at-home wives (an intrusion into the privacy of Irish family life — Mr Haughey).

With economic armageddon round the corner convulsions in the North took second place in the campaign. The impact of the nine H-block candidates and a handful of independents in full sympathy with them will be measured in the ballot-box. They certainly did not deflect others' electioneering to any considerable extent. Although Mr Haughey, with his controversial republican credentials and his claim to have broken through to new ground arm in arm with Mrs Thatcher, hoped to draw advantage from the "national issue", it was not placed in contention between the parties, or at least between their leaders. Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and Labour are at one over the hunger strikers in the Maze. All deplore the self-destruction, all would deny them formal political status, all condemn the British Government for not further relaxing the prison rules — an inflexibility, they claim, which alienates Irish Catholics and drives the two communities of Ulster apart. The party leaders are also at one.

EDGING TOWARDS PROTECTION

West Germany has reached an understanding with Japan on Japanese car exports to the federal republic, that they will not grow this year by more than 10 per cent over last year's figure of 257,000. Asked whether the new agreement did not fly in the face of Germany's anti-protectionist stand Count Otto Graf Lambsdorff, Germany's economic minister, replied that it "did go beyond the line a little". That piece of understatement has an ironic ring coming from the minister. It was he who four weeks ago in London berated the United States for entering into an agreement with Japan to curb car exports. America's tariff, he suggested, made Germany's task of defending free international trade even harder, since its EEC partners, some of which were obstructing imports of Japanese cars, could now invoke the American lapse in their defence.

By its action Germany has effectively ruined any chance that the European Economic Community might have had of working out a pan-European restraint agreement with the Japanese. The Japanese will argue, and with some merit, that

since some European countries have imposed unilateral restrictions — Italy, for example, only allows in 2,200 Japanese cars a year — and others, like Germany, have concluded bilateral agreements, capacity cannot possibly be regarded as a single market.

Protection comes in many guises and there will be many ardent European free-traders who will be pleased that the Community is not to become simply another protectionist bloc. But will they accept the corollary, which is that increasingly, in the car industry at least, we are going to see a growing pattern of national protectionist policies?

Such policies will not necessarily continue to be of the essentially voluntary nature that we have seen up to now and of which Germany's is only the latest example. Britain has an informal arrangement with the Japanese motor industry which the British interpret to mean that Japan should limit its share of various vehicle markets in Europe to around 10-11 per cent. But Japan sold 13,000 vans to this country in the first four months of this year — taking 25 per cent of that market. In the

in according the highest priority (formally) to the objective of a united Ireland, in insisting that it must be brought about by consent not by coercion, and in repudiating the means of violence.

There are interesting differences of emphasis between Mr Haughey's presentation to the electorate and Dr FitzGerald's. Mr Haughey in the course of his campaign stretched yet further the length of elastic which attaches his gloss on the Dublin-London talks to the gloss offered by Mrs Thatcher. "I proposed that the problem of Northern Ireland should be made the subject of a fundamental reconsideration by the two sovereign governments involved. That objective has been achieved." These talks Dr FitzGerald would continue, but he would not, he says, conceal their broad contents from the Irish people north or south. He accuses Mr Haughey of exaggerating their import and of gullibility in placing so much reliance on his relationship with Mrs Thatcher. "Even the Unionists of Northern Ireland have begun to learn that it is foolish to place too much reliance on 'Britain' and he criticises him for failing to cultivate the good opinion and trust of Ulster Protestants.

The continuity that has marked Anglo-Irish relations since Mr Lynch recovered his poise after the worst of Ulster rioting in 1969 will survive this election. There is no marked preference on that score between Mr Haughey confirmed in power or a Fine Gael and Labour coalition led by Dr FitzGerald. There is one 'bad' outcome that is now just possible: Fianna Fail dependent in the Dail on the support of one or two independent republican extremists. With Fianna Fail itself acrimoniously divided about flirtation with republican violence, that would be an unstable and perhaps dangerous result.

Quite apart from the crimes against persons and property that these youngsters perpetrate, their very presence on the streets, with their distinctive uniforms, haircuts and appearance, by which they are known and instantly professed their inclination to violence, is an affront to a civilized society and an outrage against public decency. The hideous obscenity of gang violence, especially when it is directed against the community like the elderly, who are least able to defend themselves, has come to be seen by the teenagers as almost glamorous.

It is not widely known that the community police, by which they are known, are not just the young, whatever their race or colour, that by choosing to 'display' these trademarks of violence on their persons they will forfeit their immunity from arrest and incur the liability, as suspected persons, to be stopped, searched, questioned or detained if found out of doors and in public places at unreasonable hours, in numbers, or without adequate cause.

Britain, with its informal pact with the Japanese car makers, is not in the best position to criticise Germany for taking the protectionist road. But Britain at least has the justification that it needs a breathing space to restructure its badly wounded car industry. That Germany cannot claim, and by making remote the chances of achieving an EEC-Japanese pact, behind which the weaker European car industries could regroup, it has done its partners a disservice.

COOPERATION ACROSS THE RIO GRANDE

This week's meeting between President Reagan and President Lopez Portillo of Mexico gave a good illustration of the changed relationship between their two countries. Until quite recently the United States paid very little attention to its southern neighbour, while the Mexicans felt powerless and often resentful in the face of American dominance. But since the discovery of its huge oil reserves Mexico has become an increasingly important actor on the international scene, particularly in the Caribbean region, and this has been recognized in Washington. It was significant that Mr Reagan made a point of meeting President Lopez Portillo even before his inauguration, and this week he went out of his way to show the Mexican President that he was a respected visitor.

There was no chance that they would be able to resolve Mexican-American differences, which go deep, in a day or two of talks. There are differences which arise from their common border, and the enormous disparity of wealth between the two countries — the issue of illegal Mexican immigrants into the United States, for instance, and Mexico's need for better access to the American market for its exports. There are also radically different approaches to Cuba, with which Mexico has good relations, and to the current turmoil in Central

America. Mexico has cultivated good relations with the revolutionary government in Nicaragua, of which the Reagan Administration is profoundly suspicious, and has been sharply critical of the Administration's policies towards El Salvador.

But though these differences were discussed, and are to be discussed further at a lower level, both men were anxious to improve relations by focusing on possible areas of cooperation. And at the personal level Mr Reagan succeeded in getting on with Señor Lopez Portillo in a way that Mr Carter never achieved — ironically, in view of the fact that Mr Carter's general policies towards Latin America were far more congenial to the Mexicans than Mr Reagan's.

The upshot is that Señor Lopez Portillo has agreed in principle to take part in a long-term plan to provide aid to Central America and the Caribbean — a project that the Reagan Administration is now beginning to prepare in an attempt to curb Cuban influence in the region. On his side, Mr Reagan has agreed to attend a summit meeting in Mexico in October at which the issue of North-South economic relations will be discussed though he made it a condition that President Castro should not be there too.

There is in fact every reason for the two countries to make

an effort to put their relations on a better level. Mexico is now one of the United States' main suppliers of oil — and a much nearer and more stable one than Saudi Arabia — and there is a heavy volume of trade between them. Externally, neither of them is happy about the upheavals in Central America and the prospect that Cuba may acquire more influence there and in the Caribbean area generally. It is just that Mexico reacts to the trend differently, by taking great trouble to keep on good terms with the revolutionary governments.

So far, at least, the Reagan Administration has taken an extraordinarily simplistic view of the troubles in the region, blaming them solely on Cuban and Soviet intervention when in fact they are very largely the product of social, political and economic conditions in the various countries. Mexico, which for historical reasons is critical of American attempts to intervene, is well placed to give Washington a more balanced view of the real situation; and it has already shown the sort of action which is needed by its agreement with Venezuela to provide oil on preferential terms to a number of Caribbean countries. Together, the two countries can do much to help the countries of the region and keep them stable.

Long may the cow parsley live. (even though it's a nuisance in my garden.)

Yours in the truth,
ADRIAN KENNEDY,
Widmill Corner,
2 Kings Avenue,
Eastbourne,
East Sussex.
June 8.

Verge of recovery

From Mr Adrian Kennedy
Sir, Mrs McFarlane's assumption (June 8) that cow parsley makes "driving in the country dangerous" is false.

It is drivers' incompetence, carelessness, and impatience that makes motoring dangerous (for both driver and pedestrian).

Cow parsley, "bad" roads, "dangerous" corners, and trees that "unsight" motorists do not cause accidents — drivers do.

Unknown cuts in council grants

From the Leader of Newark District Council

Sir, The Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Michael Heseltine, has announced that "high-spending" councils are to have their rate support grant reduced in order to curb their tendency to impose "unreasonable" burdens on their ratepayers. Because Newark District Council has increased its current expenditure compared with the Government's arbitrarily chosen 1976-77 base it is to be penalised to the extent of £145,000 unless it now makes cuts in its planned spending.

Our neighbours, Rushcliffe Borough Council, however, are to be fully protected from penalties because they have reduced their spending this year as requested by the Government. Yet the facts are that this year we are planning to spend £28.60 per head of population against a rate of £28.00 for the purposes of 10.5p, whilst Rushcliffe has budgeted to spend £33.80 per head and has a local rate of 19.5p.

Which of us, I ask, is imposing the greatest burden upon its ratepayers? As a matter of fact, of the 130 or so non-metropolitan districts which are not to be penalised at all 88 are spending more per head than we are, and 77 of them have a higher local rate as well. It seems that we are to be penalised not because we are high spenders, since by comparison with others we are demonstrably not, but because we have spent too little in the past.

It is not Mr Heseltine who is turning the world upside down, and it is little wonder that local authorities are baffled by his antics. Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL COWAN,
Newark District Council,
Kilham Hall,
Newark,
Nottinghamshire.
June 8.

Gang violence

From Mr A. K. Qureshi

Sir, You report today (June 3) on the tragic deaths of Mr Terence May in London and Mr Douglas Brunt in Birmingham from indiscriminate violence by gangs of youths.

It is not only the victims of such violence who are being victimised, but also the community, from which I escaped with only minor injuries due to the timely arrival of a neighbour, I find every such incident disturbing.

Quite apart from the crimes against persons and property that these youngsters perpetrate, their very presence on the streets, with their distinctive uniforms, haircuts and appearance, by which they are known and instantly professed their inclination to violence, is an affront to a civilized society and an outrage against public decency. The hideous obscenity of gang violence, especially when it is directed against the community like the elderly, who are least able to defend themselves, has come to be seen by the teenagers as almost glamorous.

It is not widely known that the community police, by which they are known, are not just the young, whatever their race or colour, that by choosing to 'display' these trademarks of violence on their persons they will forfeit their immunity from arrest and incur the liability, as suspected persons, to be stopped, searched, questioned or detained if found out of doors and in public places at unreasonable hours, in numbers, or without adequate cause.

Yours faithfully,
A. KALEEM QURESHI,
64 Lewin Road,
Streatham, SW15.
June 3.

European unity

From Mr Edmund Neville-Rolfe

Sir, Mr T. B. Martin (June 9) suggests that future historians will discover why the British were not at the birth of European unity. Within the next five years the 30-year rule will help to shed more light on the British Government's attitude and action at the 1955 Messina Conference whose purpose was to "re-launch Europe" after the failure of the Six and the United Kingdom to set up a European Defence Community.

The point of view of the British had been clearly seen during the Green Pool negotiations of 1952-54: they wanted no more than a continuation of the existing policies within the framework of the OEEC (Organisation for European Economic Cooperation). The report of the Special Committee, appointed to consider the possibility of a treaty establishing an Economic Community, concluded unequivocally that "it is inconceivable that any Common Market should be established in Europe which did not include the United Kingdom". It is hardly surprising therefore that the Eden Government had withdrawn from the committee several months earlier as soon as it was clear that the Six had in mind an economic organisation which would be quite separate from OEEC.

Had the British not shied away from the idea of a common agricultural policy, and had they gone on to take part in negotiations for a treaty, the CAP that emerged would still, of course, have given look alike the interests of the 15 million persons then employed in agriculture in a Community of seven. Nevertheless, it might have taken a less extremely protectionist form, and almost certainly a less dirigiste one.

At the same time, the treaty might have written into it policies that took more positive account of the need for economic adjustments within industry as well as agriculture, and dealt with urban decay as well as rural backwardness.

Whether the Rome Treaty would in these circumstances have protected British interests sufficiently to satisfy those who would now like the United Kingdom to withdraw from the Community is also of course a matter for speculation.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND NEVILLE-ROLFE,
Bureau Européen de Recherches SA,
Rue Stevin 216,
1040 Bruxelles.
June 8.

Freedom of choice in education

From the Chairman of the Independent Schools' Joint Council Advisory Committee

Sir, The national executive of the Labour Party has accepted recommendations which are designed to lead to the destruction of independent education in this country. It is to be guerrilla warfare followed by legislation which will make it illegal to charge fees for private education.

We may at some time have to endure the guerrilla warfare — we will tighten our belts and survive — but we shall not be able to accept legislation which will make this country the only country in the free world in which it is illegal to run a private school and charge for the services offered.

It may be difficult for some politicians to understand that our concern is not just to preserve our schools, although we would regard the destruction of some of the finest academic institutions in the world as being a disaster of the first order. An attack on independent education would pose a threat to both academic freedom and individual freedom which we could not accept.

We shall defend these freedoms with as much vigour as trade union leaders would show if at any time it was proposed to abolish the right of their institutions to exist. We shall be supported by the majority of people in this country — every single test of opinion has shown that most people would be opposed to the abolition of independent education; whatever the arguments about the schools as such may be.

We shall be supported, too, by the Declaration of Human Rights and, more specifically, by the completely unambiguous statement in subsection 3 of article 13 of the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, signed in

1976 by the British Government:

"The State's parties to the present covenant undertake to have respect for the liberty of parents... to choose for their children schools other than those maintained by the public authorities... and to ensure the religious and moral education of their children in conformity with their own convictions."

Nothing could be clearer than this: "schools other than those maintained by the public authorities". It is important to make clear, at this stage, that we can never accept the state should have complete control of all primary and secondary education; that the responsibility for the upbringing of children should pass from the parents to the state; that the child should be the mere creature of the state; that teachers at any level should be denied the established academic freedom to practise, if they so wish, free from the control of the state. It is highly dangerous to assume that all truth is revealed only to those who operate in the field of politics.

No action by Government will stop parents from ensuring that their children are educated in the way that they wish, and nothing will stop teachers from exercising a right practised in all the free countries of the world. Will the Labour Party, any Labour Party, now find it objectionable to enforce legislation which will send to prison respectable citizens who seek to exercise what they believe to be their essential individual rights?

If the Labour Party would not find it objectionable, I am certain that the majority of the people of this country would.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK FISHER,
New Bars, 10, Cassington Road,
Yarnton,
Oxford.

Seat-belt legislation

From Dr G. M. Mackay

Sir, Perhaps I might comment on a number of the points raised by Sir Ronald Bell, MP (June 10), concerning the compulsory use of seat belts. There is one serious argument against compulsory use of seat belts, which is being debated in the Lords, and that is a philosophical one stated ably by Sir Ronald: it is that the compulsory use of belts is a denial of freedom to choose which all car occupants should have.

I believe that driving and the use of public roads is a privilege and not a fundamental right, that in exchange for the use of such public facilities, we already accept restrictions on our freedom of action (such as driving on the left and stopping at red lights) and the compulsory use of seat belts is, in no way, a new principle to be resisted.

There are, however, arguments against compulsory seat belt use as a means of saving lives. First, surveys suggest that a substantial majority of the driving public favours such legislation, and that the benefits of such legislation are not just the action of minority pressure groups.

Second, although there are occasional cases where seat belts may have caused a driver to swerve, or a car to skid, these are extremely rare. Below the 100 per cent level, but the benefits are that a 100 per cent seat-belt use reduces the number of fatal and serious casualties by at least 50 per cent. Compulsory seat belt use. The assessment of seat-belt effectiveness is a specialised area, and Sir Ronald ought to beware of folk stories.

Third, Sir Ronald, dismisses Victorian experience with seat-belt legislation by an easy reference to the oil crisis and an alleged similar decline in English casualties over the same period. In reality the decline in the Victorian period was not due to the use of seat belts, but to the fact that the Victorian period was a period of relative peace and stability, and the factors such as vehicle mileage, changes in pedestrian and motor-cyclist casualties, actual conformity to the legislation and timing

of seat belts in cars have all been accounted for. Compulsory use of seat belts stands out as the most effective piece of public health legislation which has been introduced in this country, which, if translated to this country, would save at least 600 lives and 4,000 serious casualties annually.

As an authority, Sir Ronald quotes a paper by Mr John Adams. This claims that countries without seat belt laws have had greater reductions in casualties than countries which have such laws. Mr Adams' analysis is seriously flawed in its method, factually incorrect in several instances, and the conclusions drawn do not follow from the data analysed. It is unrealistic to expect simple comparisons of all classes of road deaths together (pedestrian and motor cyclist as well as car occupants) between different countries over a period of a decade to show the effect of a dominant influence. Such a factor remains buried under all the other uncontrolled variables in such an analysis.

Finally, Sir Ronald introduces the notion that driving behaviour changes for the worse as soon as a seat-belt law is introduced. Recent research in both Canada and Australia has shown this hypothesis to be wrong. Drivers conforming to seat belt laws in reality drive better than those who break the law.

Accident statistics are often not amenable to simple interpretations. However, the benefits of seat belt legislation have been well established, in a great number of specific studies. Twenty-six countries so far have enacted such legislation without noticeable diminution of freedom. For Britain, the savings to the country would be around £150m annually; in any field other than driving we would be asking why we have not introduced such a powerful measure for saving much earlier.

Yours faithfully,
G. M. MACKAY,
Head of Accident Research Unit,
University of Birmingham,
Birmingham 15,
June 10.

Civil Service dispute

From Mr G. W. Marshall

Sir, Following the inflexibility of the Cabinet last week and press reports at the weekend about "unofficial" civil servants, what is at stake is no longer, and never really was, just whether the increased pay of civil servants should be 7 per cent or, say, 8.5 per cent. The issue is whether the Civil Service the country will have.

Ministers in and out of government have often enough preached to the virtues of avoiding industrial disputes by reaching agreements, sticking to them, and using arbitration to settle any differences. The Conservative Government has advocated this as strongly as any, but it is they who have broken their own agreement with civil servants, failed to put anything in its place and refused arbitration.

Its justification of an increase of 18 per cent to MPs on the grounds that 12 per cent relates to a deferred award seems particularly hollow and hypocritical. Senior civil servants are still waiting in vain for implementation of the salaries

recommended following pay research in 1980; these were restricted in the general settlement for that year after the direct intervention of the Prime Minister. Government whiffles and double-crossing cannot continue to command the loyalty and respect of its employees.

We would do well to ponder that these old-fashioned qualities of honour, fairness, loyalty and respect have given us a non-political Civil Service which for all its faults, is certainly less corrupt and probably still the finest in the world. It is the quality of that service which is now at risk. Will a service staffed either by dissatisfied militiamen or by "yes men" really be an improvement?

The Government will, no doubt, get the Civil Service it deserves. The fundamental question is whether the country can afford to let it.

Yours faithfully,
G. W. MARSHALL,
Acting General Secretary,
Association of First Division Civil Servants,
27 Northumberland Avenue,
WC2,
June 9.

Defence review

From Rear-Admiral C. C. H. Dunlop

Sir, In the many arguments surrounding the current defence review there are two points that do not seem to have been fully brought out. The first is that the history of conflict shows that the only certainty is that it is the unexpected that will happen. The Boer War was to be a limited punitive action against some rebellious farmers; the 1914-18 war was to be over by the first Christmas; no one envisaged the British being driven from the continent of Europe in 1940.

Surviving, and then coming back with its great allies, to win. It appears that too much consideration is being given to precise assumptions; for example, that war would take the form of a very quick, all-decisive campaign on the western front, and that there are those who argue that little or no surface Navy is required for ensuring seaborne reinforcement.

If there are going to be "scenarios", let us try to look at the possibilities through Russian eyes. Can we seriously envisage them marching across Europe, with the

certainty of triggering off the nuclear holocaust and so the destruction of their motherland; can we see them attacking by air the actual territory of this country, or one of our Nato allies, carrying with it almost as great a peril of nuclear retaliation as a frontal land attack?

Surely, to the Russians, by far the "safest" and most containable form of military action against Nato would be at sea, in isolation of war on land, just as actually happened from September, 1939, to early April 1940.

Here the Russians could, unless adequate Nato naval defence was available, win total victory without anything like the same risks of the nuclear destruction of their motherland because no one's territory would be directly hit. The advent of weapons of mass destruction seems to me to make this scenario the most likely one of all.

Yours faithfully,
C. C. H. DUNLOP,
Chaceford Farm,
Sand Lane,
Frimley,
Cranbrook, Kent.
June 5.

Jury's verdict in PC Olds case

From Mr C. H. W. Gane

Sir, It is rapidly becoming clear that criticism of the jury's verdict in respect of the wounding of PC Olds (report, June 6) has been misplaced. They do indeed appear to have approached their task in a responsible and thoughtful manner. (To his further credit, PC Olds has refused to join in the criticism of that verdict.) Can the same be said, however, of the presiding judge?

The offence of wounding with intent under section 18 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment. But the normal order of sentences for offences under that section is up to 15 years. On more than one occasion the Court of Appeal has indicated that more severe sentences are not appropriate for the offence of wounding with intent.

Mr Justice Skinner has passed a sentence appropriate to murder (which was not committed) or attempted murder (which the jury, by their verdict, negated). What, in effect, has been achieved by the life sentence, is a replacement of the jury's assessment of the defendant's criminality by the judge's assessment. If this is the case, does it not constitute yet another attack on the jury, albeit less obvious and more insidious than that of the other critics?

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER H. W. GANE,
University of Lancaster,
(Department of Law),
Gillow House,
Bailrigg,
Lancaster.

Bonded labour

From Mr R. P. H. Davies

Sir, Your Delhi correspondent's article on bonded labour in yesterday's Times (June 3) was welcome evidence of an awakening public interest in this ancient but, perhaps, the closest modern equivalent on a large scale to the chattel slavery which now exists only in relatively small, though still important, pockets.

Although the phenomenon of bonded labour, is by no means confined to India, the sheer size of the subcontinent naturally ensures that the numbers involved are proportionately great. At the same time, it is India that serious efforts are being made to understand and to abolish the practice: the recent conference in Delhi organised jointly by the National Council of Educational Research and Training and the Gandhi Foundation is a good example of the attention which is now being focused on the problem by influential academics and others.

There are those who believe that Mrs Gandhi's attempt to outlaw the system in 1975 contributed at least as much to her temporary downfall as Sanjay Gandhi's over-enthusiasm for sterilisation. It is to be hoped that this experience will not deter her from attempting once more to eradicate a practice which is deeply embedded in the rural society of India. The causes are various and cannot easily be separated, from other social and economic systems of agriculture and manufacturing.

The Anti-Slavery Society has for many years been engaged in exposing the prevalence of debt bondage and bonded labour generally in Central and South America and in Africa as well as in India and other Asian countries and we have already decided to make it one of our major priority themes during the next year. The collaboration of the press in coming to grips with the problem is of course vital and, while welcoming the present report from Delhi, I dare to hope that your correspondent elsewhere will keep your readers informed of bonded labour conditions on other continents.

Yours faithfully,
R. P. H. DAVIES,
Secretary, The Anti-Slavery Society,
180 Brixton Road, SW9,
June 4.

Rara avis

From Mr David Ross

Sir, Mr Bickford (June 9) is wrong. The species *Twitcher* is fully documented in Bill Oddie's *Little Black Book*, recently published. The full definition occupies pp 23-27 but in essence is summed up in the following: "If this kind of bird gets to hear that a bird has been sighted, it will be so wracked with nervous anticipation (that he might see it) or trepidation (that he might miss it) that he literally twitches with excitement of it all."

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ROSS,
2 The Grange,
Harley Wintney,
Hampshire.
June 9.

Carriage trade

From Mrs Margaret J. Herxhey

Sir, When I was in the sixth form at school a representative of *The Times* came to address us. In answer to the question, why did *The Times* not carry news on the front and back outside pages, he replied that it was necessary for lesser newspapers to do so, as their readers were second-class railway travellers who had to stand in the train and only had room to rotate their papers from front to back.

Times readers, by contrast, travelled first class and had the space to open their newspapers fully to read them. He illustrated this with an amusing, if patronising, dumbshow, culminating in both him and the newspaper revolving like teetotums.

Twenty years later, I observe your new layout and wonder whether it is a reflection on the declining economic status of your readers or whether it is more than coincidence that it coincided with the withdrawal of British Railways' first-class service on many cross-country routes.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET HERXHEY,
37 Frogmoor, NW3,
June 9.

No big guns so Spanish cannon can roar back

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The cost of sterling's slide, page 23

Stock markets
FT Ind 542.3 down 3.3
FT Gilt 66.19 up 0.38

Sterling
\$1.9715 up 31.0 pts
Index 95.0 up 0.4

Dollar
Index 108.5 down 1.0
DM 2.3682 down 328 pts

Gold
\$465.50 up \$9

Money
3 mth sterling 12 1/2-12 1/2
6 mth Euro 5 1/4-5 1/4
3 mth Euro 5 1/4-5 1/4

IN BRIEF

Westland cash for helicopter

Economies at the Ministry of Defence have forced Westland Aircraft to agree to contribute £2.75m to the first stage of the development of the EH 101 helicopter.

Westland announced with its parent company, Sikorsky, that it had agreed to the payments in nine monthly tranches once the contract started.

Lord Aldington, Westland's chairman, also reported that the amount of private money going into the development of the WG 30 helicopter was increasing.

The Ministry is likely to decide within the next month whether it is to go ahead with the EH 101 contract, which involves a partnership between Westland and the Italian Agusta company.

The EH 101 is the replacement for the Sea King helicopter.

Financial Editor, page 23
Collins bid request
News International yesterday said its 200p share bid (for William Collins) was made at the Collins family's request after News International bought a block of shares from the family's members. NI said in its offer document that it would be content to remain Collins' largest shareholder with the 30.3 per cent of the ordinary voting capital it now owns.

OECD price rise
Consumer prices rose by 1 per cent in April in the 24 member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, bringing the increase over 12 months down to 10.6 per cent. Japan has the lowest inflation rate at 5.2 per cent, less than half the OECD average.

Coke decision soon
The Government is expected to make an announcement on the funding of coke supplies to Britain's troubled iron foundry industry before the end of the month. The 500 foundry companies are pressing for subsidies to bring them into line with their European rivals.

BSC jobs cut
The British Steel Corporation has announced more than 120 redundancies at two of its plants in Sheffield. Unilever's Park Works will lose 82 jobs and Stockbridge works where 40 jobs will be lost, make savings for motorcar manufacturers.

Nigerian oil output
Nigerian oil output fell in March by 5.5 per cent compared with February and by about 13.4 per cent compared with March 1980.

Loan for Russia
The Soviet Union has signed a loan agreement for 200,000,000 yen (£474.5m) from Japan's semi-official Export Bank and about 20 commercial banks for Siberian coal and timber development projects.

US tin compromise
The United States would agree to an International Tin Council buffer stock of 50,000 metric tons, 5,000 tons lower than it earlier insisted, if there is agreement on other issues, says Michael Smith, the American Trade Ambassador in Geneva.

Tobacco duties
Tobacco duties are expected to bring in 14.5 per cent more to the Government this year totalling an estimated £3.22bn, according to the Treasury.

£13m Shell plant
Shell's Belgian subsidiary is to set up a £13m plant at Ghent to manufacture catalyst carriers. The new plant will have a capacity of 2,260 tonnes a year and will come on stream at the end of 1982.

Wall Street lower
The Dow Jones industrial average closed 0.56 point down to 993.88. The S&P 500 was 1.5460. The £ was 0.587535.

Keep down the lending rate Beckett says

By Peter Hill

The Government was urged yesterday not to respond to sterling's recent fall on foreign exchange markets by raising the minimum lending rate.

Sir Terence Beckett, director-general of the Confederation of British Industry, said a further increase in MLR would be a bitter pill for industry after all that it had swallowed in the past two years.

Speaking in London—as the pound again strengthened—Sir Beckett said that prospects for business and the economy were, on balance, brighter. The overvalued pound, he said, had inflicted heavy toll on industry.

"The truth is that the level from which the pound has eased—nor plunged or plummeted as some of the headlines have declared—was ridiculously high. Even today the level is still very high."

Although it had fallen against the United States dollar, the pound's trade-weighted average value, which mattered much more, had dropped by only 8 per cent since the first quarter of this year.

"We have consistently argued during this past year that the high value of the pound has been increasing industry's problems. And we have consistently urged the Government to cream the froth off the exchange rate. This has now largely happened," Sir Terence said.

Speaking at the annual lunch of the Press Association, Sir Beckett said there was no reason for the CBI to alter its view that a 10 per cent fall in the value of the pound was compatible with reducing inflation, so long as pay settlements were kept under control and industry's costs were not increased.

In a wide-ranging speech, Sir Beckett attacked the Labour Party's proposals to take Britain out of the European Economic Community, which now accounts for 43 per cent of United Kingdom trade, and undermined industry's growing concern about the trade imbalance with Japan.

Voluntary restraint agreements with the Japanese were not enough, Japan had to agree to open up her market to British and European exports, and the Government had to ensure that Japanese investment in Britain did not become a Trojan horse.

Economic Notebook and Business Diary, page 23

Eagle Star continues move against Allianz
By Ronald Pullen
Eagle Star is planning to take its campaign against Allianz Versicherung's shareholding in the group to the regulatory authorities in Britain and Europe.

This follows last week's dawn raid and subsequent tender offer which has left Allianz, West Germany's leading insurance group, with a 28.1 per cent interest in Eagle Star.

Responding to remarks from Allianz that it would be seeking an early meeting with the Eagle Star board to discuss co-operation in both insurance and investment activities, Sir David Mountain, Eagle Star's chairman, said that the company would be looking for support from the authorities to prevent Allianz from taking over.

Eagle Star intends writing to the Office of Fair Trading in Britain, the German Kartell Office and the European Commission in Brussels asking for their views on the matter.

Mr Anthony Rasch, Eagle Star's chief general manager, said: "Our main concern is to ensure we are in a situation where our commercial independence cannot be influenced by a minority shareholder."

Financial Editor, page 23

Cocoa deal to benefit Ivory Coast
By Our Commodities Correspondent
In a further attempt to persuade the Ivory Coast to join the troubled International Cocoa Agreement, economists at the International Cocoa Organisation said yesterday that the agreement would raise the collective earnings of members by about \$1,000m in 1981-2.

A report by the economists says that the Ivory Coast, which normally accounts for about a quarter of world's cocoa exports, would itself gain an extra \$265m from the agreement.

The calculations are based on the assumptions that the 1981-2 world crop will be similar to the current season's 1.6m tonnes, and that prices will not fall below 80 cents a pound. The agreement is designed to support prices at 110 cents a pound once they reach that level.

The Ivory Coast has refused to sign the agreement because it believes the intervention level to be too low. Two leading consumers, the United States and Germany, have also declined to join. But Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary General, is expected to convene a meeting at the end of June of countries who want to go ahead with the agreement.

While the future of the cocoa agreement remains in doubt, that of the sixth tin agreement, under discussion in Geneva, looked brighter yesterday. The United States made new proposals that would allow the buffer stock manager to borrow money against the security of governments' commitments to contribute to the fund.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises
Fossil Tin 27 1/2p to 102p
Churchbury Est 15p to 635p
French 8p to 120p
Pegler-Batters 10p to 30p
Polly Peck 10p to 30p

Falls
Franklin Hill 30p to 855p
Guthrie Corp 75p to 800p
Harrison Corp 25p to 825p
Kinross 18p to 595p
Pretorian P Cem 20p to 355p

Shares
Owen Owen 5p to 263p
Skidmore 7 1/2p to 240p
UC Invest 7p to 226p
Ultramar 5p to 448p

Shares
Sentrust 18p to 349p
Sun All 14p to 870p
Tunnel Holes 12p to 430p
Royal 10p to 380p
Westland Air 12p to 143p

Business News

THE TIMES June 11 1981

Dollar hit by fear of US oil boycott by Arabs

By Frances Williams

The dollar fell sharply against all leading currencies on foreign exchange markets yesterday as interest rates tumbled and fears grew of Arab retaliation against the United States after Israel's bombing of Iraq's main nuclear reactor.

The dollar plunged by more than 34 pence against a generally stronger Deutsche mark to 1.9425 at the end of London trading. Its trade-weighted index against a basket of currencies dropped 1.0 to 108.5 (average 1975-100), reflecting big losses against such currencies as sterling, the Swiss franc and Japanese yen.

The pound gained 10 "cents" on the dollar, closing in London at \$1.9715. Its trade-weighted index rose 0.4 to 95.0 with sterling stronger against most continental currencies.

The dollar plummeted in American and Far East markets overnight on news that Kuwaiti MPs had called for an Arab oil boycott of the United States in the wake of the Israeli raid.

A modest recovery around midday in Europe was quickly reversed by falling American interest rates, which gave rise to speculation that rates have peaked for the time being.

Chemical Bank cut its broker loan rate to 1 1/2 from 2 1/4 per cent and two smaller banks cut their prime rates to 1 1/2 from 2 1/4 per cent. Most banks remain at 2 1/4 per cent.

The widely-watched Federal Funds rate opened yesterday in New York at 1 1/4 per cent, down 3 per cent from Tuesday's close, and fell further to 1 1/8 per cent. This was taken as a clear indication of lower rates in some time.

The dollar's weakness and easier American interest rates helped gold, which rose by \$9 to \$465.50 an ounce.

Financial Editor, page 23

MPs sceptical about steel plan

By Our Industrial Editor

Scepticism about the British Steel Corporation's latest survival plan was sounded yesterday by an all-party committee of MPs. They gave warning that failure to meet ambitious targets could lead to further demands for Government aid or draconian measures to reduce losses.

In its report into British Steel's corporate plan, which will be reviewed by Mr Ian MacGregor, its chairman, next month, the Industry and Trade Committee said: "In the absence of any contingency element within the external financing limit, there is a clear possibility that if the ambitious targets of the plan are not met, either the external financing limit of £730m will be insufficient or the corporation will need to take draconian measures to contain its operating losses."

Sir Donald Kaberry MP (Con, Leeds NW), the committee's chairman, said yesterday: "I hope we are proved wrong by the committee's report, which is regarded as an interim study, largely endorses the measures taken by the steel chairman to rationalise the BSC."

"We have no evidence of any practicable alternative to this plan for the survival of BSC. We reluctantly conclude that this heavy demand on the public purse must be accepted for a further year," the MPs said.

There is a general recognition that the industry is now at the brink of a precipice, but the dynamism of the present chairman, and the readiness of the workforce to cooperate in dramatic changes in working practices leading to substantial improvements in productivity may mean that the present plan, optimistic as they are, will succeed where many earlier ones have failed," the committee said.

Early next month, the corporation will formally confirm its plan for the next financial year of some £660m, in which its external financing limit was increased from an original £450m to £1,121m. Later, Mr MacGregor will advise ministers of how close BSC is to remaining within its target loss for this financial year set at £318m.

This year's financing limit of £730m will embrace the cost of further closures and redundancies, working capital and capital investment.

Mr MacGregor will discuss the achievement of targets set in the plan later next month with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. But steel industry unions remain worried that further closures may be implemented.

In its report the committee emphasized the need for effective consultation before decisions were taken, and urged the Government to impress on European governments the need for capacity reductions by other steel producers. Further that the United Kingdom industry has already borne more than its share of cutbacks.

The committee, which accepted the importance to the BSC of the new regime of voluntary productivity cuts among European steel producers, designed to eliminate surplus capacity and lift prices by 15 to 20 per cent, also urged ministers to press for the elimination of all subsidies to the European steel industry.

Fourth report of the Industry and Trade Committee: House of Commons. Paper: 336-I, HMSO, £2.95.

Plea for £50,000 limit on mortgage relief

By Rosemary Unsworth

The Law Society wants the Government to increase the house price limit for mortgage interest relief from £25,000 to £50,000. In a submission to the Treasury on the Finance Bill, the society's committee, an revenue law says that the limit has not been adjusted since 1974, despite the substantial increase in house prices.

There are still many people with borrowings in excess of £25,000 which were incurred before 1974, says the society. It says that people who initially gave six years' until April 1980 to reorganize their finances. This was extended with the change of Government until April 1982.

The society maintains that this extension gave the impression that it was to enable the Government to consider whether the £25,000 limit should be removed, raised or left in place. It recommends that an early statement is made.

The Law Society is also worried about the Business Start-Up Scheme. While it welcomes relief in the scheme, it doubts if it will have the results it deserves. At present it is difficult for investors and suitable businesses to be introduced, and this problem may not be overcome within the three-year life of the scheme.

Financial Editor, page 23

\$1,000m Islamic business fund

By Michael Frost

Prince Faisal, the first Saudi prince to graduate from an American university, has campaigned for the revival of Islamic financial principles for many years. He has supported the establishment of Islamic banks in several Muslim countries.

The aims of the DMI are described as "Islamic investment, Islamic solidarity and Islamic banking operations and other trading and commercial activities conducted in accordance with Islamic principles."

Speaking at a news conference, Prince Faisal said that the investment priority would be Muslim countries, followed by other Third World nations. Investment in developed countries was not a priority.

So far DMI has raised \$250m from wealthy individuals in the Muslim world. The rest of the capital will be raised by a public offering in Muslim countries.

The first investment will be in the supply of agricultural machinery to the Damazina project in the Sudan.

Prince Faisal stressed that the new company would be commercial, "essentially a partnership between money and work, a partnership limited in size and function."

Financial Editor, page 23

Courtaulds to shut London derry plant

From Our Own Correspondent, Belfast

Government offers of substantial financial support to Courtaulds to continue operation of its home-wind linen plant at Carrick, Londonderry, have been rejected and the textile group will close the works with the loss of 630 jobs.

The announcement, which brings the total number of redundancies made in the province in the last three days to more than 2,000, marks a further contraction in what was once a leading production area for man-made fibres.

Union leaders at the plant which has lost £1.1m since it opened in 1976, were told of the decision by Dr Vera Funness, the plant director.

Despite talks with the Department of Commerce in Ulster, during which the Government offered to provide substantial financial support to the company, Courtaulds decided there was no hope of the plant becoming profitable in the foreseeable future.

Several thousand workers in the steel division of the huge West German Krupp industrial group are pinning their hopes of keeping their jobs on the revolutionary government in Iran.

The supervisory board of Krupp Stahl, which is considering management plans to cut the workforce by up to 5,000, has to approve all major decisions. It contains an equal number of shareholder and employee representatives, plus one "neutral man" who would cast the decisive vote in case of deadlock.

But today it appeared that one of the shareholder representatives, Mahmud Ahmed Sadeh-Herawi, of Tehran, would vote against the planned redundancies. Mr Sadeh-Herawi is Ayatollah Khomeini's man on the Krupp board. He is the Iranian industry Minister and represents the 25 per cent of Krupp Stahl owned by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Mr Sadeh-Herawi was keen to spend his oil wealth on buying western industrial expertise.

Last month when the management's plans were first put forward, Mr Sadeh-Herawi assumed the other shareholder representatives by objecting to the redundancy proposals and asking for more time to consider them.

Leyland misses a £10m bus

By Clifford Webb

The West Midlands Passenger Transport Committee yesterday awarded its entire 1982 order for 17 double-decker buses, worth £10m, to the Birmingham-based Metro-Cammell company.

Despite a last-minute appeal to committee members, Leyland Vehicles failed to win a single order for the four-year running.

But the committee left the door open by deciding that 100 of the 350 buses to be ordered in the following three years will go to someone other than Metro-Cammell.

Mr Ken MacIver, managing director of Leyland Bus, wrote to each of the 16 committee members on Tuesday.

He pointed out that Leyland spent £75m a year with West Midlands components companies and if it adopted a policy of buying only from those areas which purchased its buses, the consequences for the West Midlands would be serious.

Financial Editor, page 23

Iran opposes Krupp plan to cut 5,000 jobs Solidarity of the Ayatollah's man

From Peter Norman, Bonn, June 10

Mr Hassan Sarvi, of the Iranian Embassy in Bonn, explained why the minister had cast his vote with the workers. "The Islamic revolution in Iran is against dismissing workers," he said. "It is the Islamic belief that work is necessary for the development of mankind, without work the personality cannot develop."

A Krupp spokesman declined to comment on the reports of the Iranian stand against the proposed dismissals although he conceded that the outcome of the board meeting was awaited with more than usual interest.

Mr Sadeh-Herawi's opposition to the redundancies is thought to be the first instance of a representative of the Iranian revolutionary government intervening in a company's affairs. It could set an interesting precedent for, on his buying spree the Shah also bought stakes of more than 25 per cent in the Krupp parent company and in Deutsche Babcock, which are still held by the government in Iran.

The rationalization programme proposed by the management is intended to offset serious financial losses caused by the crisis in the West European steel industry. Last month Krupp Stahl reported a catastrophic final quarter in 1980 and said that this adverse trend has continued into the early part of this year.

Fine Art Developments

-mail order and greeting cards-

Year ended 31st March	1981 £000's	1980 £000's
SALES	£75,704	£58,062
TRADING PROFIT	£7,444	£7,274
INTEREST	£2,813	£1,217
PROFIT before tax	£4,631	£6,057
DIVIDENDS per share	2.750p	2.500p

Fine Art Developments Limited

The 1981 Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary at Fine Art House, Queen Street, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire, DE14 3LP.

Land Securities

Details of the Group's major property interests and maps showing their location are incorporated with the Directors' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 1981, which have been despatched to shareholders.

Non-shareholders may obtain a copy on written request to:

THE LAND SECURITIES INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED
Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6BT

Renewal of textile agreement

From Mr. Ben Ford, MP for Bradford North (Labour) and others

Sir, As many of your readers will be aware, the European Commission will shortly be entering into negotiations with the GATT Textile Committee on the renewal of the domestic Fibre Arrangement (MFA) - international trade agreement. It is a matter of some considerable concern to MPs that there is so little in the way of public debate about the MFA when over the last two years some 160,000 jobs have been lost to the textile and clothing industry.

Through almost 600,000 people employed in the industry, which makes it a bigger employer than the iron and steel and coal-mining industries put together, the experience of the past two years has created considerable uncertainty about future job prospects among workers, their families and the communities that are in many instances so heavily dependent on textiles.

Under the present MFA agreement import quotas have been allowed to grow at a much faster rate than domestic consumer demand. United Kingdom manu-

facturers have found their home markets eroded by low cost imports and at the same time have found it increasingly difficult to export their wares because of deteriorating price competitiveness in the face of a strong pound.

To provide the confidence to invest in new technologies, new designs and new marketing arrangements, United Kingdom manufacturers need some form of commitment from the United Kingdom Government and from the EEC that there will be a future for the domestic industry. The negotiation of an MFA that closely links growth in low cost imports to growth in EEC consumer demand and allocates quotas to those countries that have adverse trade balances with the EEC and low tariff barriers against our own textile exports, would be a step in the right direction, a step that would help to avoid a repetition of the catastrophic job loss of the last two years.

The objective at the end of the day must be fairer international textile trade regime that will allow increased access by low-cost supplier countries

to EEC and more particularly United States markets—the latter grew four times as fast as the EEC market between 1973 and 1979—without the whole-sale destruction of those jobs that are vitally needed to maintain the economic and social fabric of major industrial areas such as the East Midlands, Northern Ireland, Lancashire and West Yorkshire.

There must be better informed and more open debate in government time the main issues involved, before the EEC Council of Ministers takes decisions in matters so vital to United Kingdom interests.

Yours sincerely,

BEN FORD,

(Chairman, All Party Parliamentary Wool Textiles Group),

NICHOLAS R. WINTERTON,

(Chairman, All Party Parliamentary Cotton and Allied Textile Group),

KEN WOOLMER,

(Chairman, Parliamentary Labour Party Textile Group),

House of Commons

London, SW1A 0AA

Changes in pilotage laws

From the Chief Executive of The Pilotage Commission

Sir, Mr. Hay's letter (May 29) made two references to the chief executive of the Pilotage Commission.

Having sought to discredit the Merchant Shipping Act, 1979 and the two committees of inquiry, SCOP and ACOP, which preceded its enactment with all-party support, Mr. Hay stated:

"The sole shipowners' representative on these committees is now the chief executive of the Pilotage Commission."

Your readers may draw their own conclusions about the impression Mr. Hay was seeking to create.

Has Mr. Hay read the SCOP and ACOP reports which he dismisses as the products of committees with constitutions "biased in favour of the pilots"? The first page of the ACOP report identified the members of the committees. They included Mr. Geoffrey Bedford, managing director, Cargill, Irvine & Co., Mr. Fred Eversard, chairman, F. I. Eversard & Sons, and Mr. George K. W. Biffen, director, Biffen & Sons. I was not a member.

As secretary of the Pilotage Commission of the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, I was the most junior of those attending the SCOP committee. The late David Robinson of Stag Line, then chairman of the committee and a past president of the chamber and Andrew Warr, a senior colleague, were the others.

As to alleged pilot bias, while ACOP had four pilots as compared to three prominent shipowner members, it also included an independent chairman, three port authority and two pilotage authority members.

In his other reference to me, Mr. Hay criticized my statement that the commission was conducting its affairs on the basis of "open government". But having objected to the draft bylaws in London, Mr. Hay has been provided by the commission with opportunities to:

(a) expand his views verbally before a sub-committee of the commission; and

(b) put in further written submissions, following the London meetings.

Mr. Hay has taken advantage of these opportunities and his views are under consideration.

Finally, as he knows, when the commission has produced its advice to the Secretary of State it will be sent to all objectors, who will be able to comment to the Secretary of State before any decision is taken on the bylaws. Mr. Hay need not even copy his comments to the commission. If he takes advantage of this "open government" opportunity, I hope Mr. Hay will refrain from referring to me personally. If not, perhaps he will at least check to ensure that his statements are factually correct.

JOHN P. CALLEN,

Chief Executive,

The Pilotage Commission,

1-19 New Canal Street,

London WC1N 1DZ.

Trade union participation in quality circles

From Mr. R. Collard

Sir, Having just returned from seeing "quality circles" in operation in Japan I was interested to read that the TUC had issued guidelines on how their members should respond to these in the United Kingdom.

Visiting plants of such well known companies as Canon, Nippon Steel and Nissan, I found that when quality circles were first developed some 12 years ago the companies experienced similar concerns from their trade unions. As a result, they carefully explained the goals of quality circles and emphasized they were designed to run parallel to the existing trade union consultative and negotiating machinery. Quality circles have therefore become a dynamic feature of Japanese industrial life, supported by the trade unions. In fact the concept is now spreading from manufacturing industry to retailing and banking.

The concerns of the TUC are also reflected in the recent guide on quality circles which we have published and which emphasized the need for appropriate briefing and involvement of trade union representatives.

Yours faithfully,

R. COLLARD,

Bridger Hamlyn Fry & Co.,

25 St. Bride Street,

London EC4A 4HR.

June 5.

Attempt to rejuvenate a flagging industry

Awards to help shoemakers

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A series of marketing awards, on the pattern of the Queen's Awards to industry, are being launched to boost the flagging fortunes of the British footwear industry. But as Mr. Kenneth Baker, Minister for Industry and Information Technology, inaugurated the scheme in London yesterday, warnings came about continuing trading problems for the industry, with recent bad weather hitting seasonal sales of women's footwear.

Sales of children's shoes are holding up well but sales of men's shoes are the worst hit sector in the industry all this year — are still languishing, Mr. Spencer Crookenden, chairman of the footwear economic development committee, said at the National Economic Development Office (NEDO).

NEDO is one of four sponsors for the marketing awards scheme together with the British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation (BFMF), the Somerset-based footwear manufacturers and British Shoe Corporation, part of Sears Holdings, which both manufactures and retails footwear.

The awards, aimed at rewarding marketing achievements and innovative endeavours, will first be handed out next January. They will be based on company performance over an 18-month period to the end

of last month. Subsequently, the scheme will cover a 12-month period.

Three awards are planned: the first for export marketing achievement, the next for United Kingdom marketing by manufacturers of branded footwear, and the third for marketing achievement, at home or abroad, jointly by manufacturers and retailers.

At present, any company without a coherent marketing plan tends to flounder like a ship without a rudder, Mr. Crookenden added. He said that the "little NEDdy" for the footwear industry was concentrating its work on encouraging improvements in productivity and exports but both of these depended on a well-thought-out approach to marketing.

Mr. Baker pointed out that marketing and design were two other key areas for improving performance. Average productivity and returns from investment had long been a cause for concern in Britain, he went on, noting how the French produced 35 per cent in 1979 and the Americans 45 per cent more shoes per employee than did British manufacturers.

On the other hand in Britain, although the footwear production had fallen, value added per employee had risen sharply, Mr. Baker said. "It is important to recognize the contribution made to our economy by

industries like footwear. I do not underestimate, and I am certain you will not, the problems the industry is facing."

In the 12 months to the end of March, British manufacturers produced 133 million pairs of footwear, a 9 per cent decline on the comparable previous period, according to the latest BFMP returns. The value of production had declined 3.5 per cent.

Employment in the industry, once running around 70,000, rose marginally in February but was still under 63,000.

The latest state of imports which last year, for several months, accounted for more than 50 per cent of United Kingdom retail sales, is not quite clear owing to lack of statistics, but Mr. Crookenden believes import penetration is now being held at 48 per cent.

The weather effects on recent retail sales, with few women buying summer wear, squeezing manufacturers' margins. But this also led to a slight trade improvement from sources such as Italy and the Far East.

Almost continuous sales offers in footwear in shops has kept retail prices in check, squeezing manufacturers' margins. But this also led to a slight trade improvement from sources such as Italy and the Far East.

Companies Bill move 'dangerous'

By Clifford Webb

The Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce yesterday expressed its strong opposition to the 1981 Companies Bill (No 2) now before Parliament contained dangerous changes in business practice.

In a letter to committee members Mr. John Warburton, the chamber's director, said the proposed abolition of the Business Names Registry would remove an essential safeguard against business malpractice.

The registry requires one-man companies not trading under their own names to disclose full details which are open to inspection by the public.

The new Bill will give the Secretary of State for Trade the right to sell the existing records without reference to interested parties.

The Birmingham chamber is recommending that, far from abolishing the registry should be improved and extended. This could be funded by increasing fees which in most cases have not been raised since 1916.

Big groups lend helping hand on £600,000 workshops project

By Baron Phillips

Four leading British companies have joined in a non-profit-making venture to breathe life into one of London's run-down inner city areas.

Barclays Bank, Midland Bank, BP and Shell are partners in the London Enterprise Agency and will be spending £600,000 on converting a near-derelict nineteenth-century warehouse in Spitalfields in the East End into workshops and offices for small companies.

Formerly a grain store, the building has been made available by the Greater London Council for almost nothing. It has been empty for 15 years and when the work is completed next summer, the four stores will provide 30,000 sq ft of accommodation divided into units varying from 200 sq ft to 1,000 sq ft.

The scheme was unveiled yesterday by Mr. John Raisman, chairman and chief executive of Shell UK, at a conference on "The private sector and the inner city," marking the centenary of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



Old Spitalfields: venture could breathe new life into run-down area.

In the Spitalfields scheme, the four companies pay for the refurbishment and renovation of the building. Small companies are then offered suites of workshop and office space at below market rent. Each will be granted a tenancy licence with a lease renewable each year at a rate of 5 per cent above the previous year's rent. Present rent around the area is about £4 a sq ft.

HIGH-SPEED SERVICE

The Press Association, Britain's national news agency, plans to transmit news on a single wire at 1,000 words a minute.

Mr. J. E. C. Dicks, the agency's chairman, disclosed this yesterday at the annual members' lunch at the Savoy Hotel, London.

Mr. Dicks emphasized that technical development would give the agency "opportunities which we must grasp if we are to remain the successful, independent, unsubsidised national news agency we are today and have been for over 114 years".

At the annual meeting afterwards Mr. Dicks said that losses on news services had increased substantially to over £1.2m. The net surplus after tax was £293,947.

Charter bid for control of Beralt wolfram mine

By Michael Prest, Mining Correspondent

Charter Consolidated, the mining finance and industrial group, has offered 110p a share for the publicly held equity in Beralt Tin and Wolfram.

This offer is part of a scheme of arrangement which would leave Charter with 75 per cent and Union Carbide with the rest.

Beralt is a British company which owns 81 per cent of Beralt Tin and Wolfram (Portugal), a mining group in Portugal extracting high grade wolfram. Charter holds 50 per cent of the Beralt company while Union Carbide has 17.9 per cent.

The offer price is 46.7 per cent above the 75p Beralt shares were worth on June 9. If the bid succeeds it will cost Charter

Sweden and UK accord on exports

By Our Commercial Editor

Despite Britain's membership of the EEC the United Kingdom is still Sweden's biggest export market and Sweden has consistently remained among Britain's top ten export markets, Mr. John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, said during a trade visit to Sweden.

There had been a sudden drop in Swedish exports to Britain, causing concern in Sweden, but this was probably a temporary phenomenon, reflecting effects of the severe recession last year in Britain, Mr. Biffen said.

With the decline in Swedish exports to Britain last year and the United Kingdom's nominal 5 per cent export growth to £1,600m, Britain finished the year with its first balance of trade surplus with Sweden in the past decade.

At the end of last year Britain was Sweden's second biggest supplier of goods after West Germany, well ahead of the United States.

Opportunities for growth of Britain's exports to Norway were underlined by Mr. Biffen now that oil-rich Norway had become one of the wealthiest countries in the world and a quality market.

In four years the value of Anglo-Norwegian trade had more than doubled to over £2,250m. Oil, gas and oil-related goods accounted for much of the rapid build-up of trade.

Exports of British-manufactured goods to Norway probably fell back in volume terms last year. But there were some encouraging features, including a 20 per cent rise in value of machinery exports.

Visible exports to Norway last year were £792m, but a flourishing invisible trade, particularly from financial and support services for offshore energy developments, earned another £400m.

Business appointments

New chief for CEBG research

Dr Trevor Brown, has been made director-general of the Central Electricity Generating Board Research division. He is at present the board's director of research.

Mr. L. E. Shadbolt (Howmedica International) has been elected president of the British Dental Trade Association.

Mr. Frederick C. Tucker has been made executive director of International Abbey Life Assurance Company.

Mr. J. Gordon Linnace, joint managing director, has become deputy chairman of United Newspapers. He continues as managing director of Yorkshire Post Newspapers.

Mr. K. M. Whitworth relinquishes the vice-chairmanship he has held since 1973, but continues as a director.

Mr. Mike Saunders has become managing director of Frimley (UK).

Bass Limited Interim Statement

For 28 weeks ended 11th April, 1981

	28 weeks to 11.4.81	28 weeks to 12.4.80	Year to 30.9.80
Sales to customers (Note 1 & 2(a))	£ millions 840.6	£ millions 662.8	£ millions 1,262.8
Net revenue:			
Bass activities	89.0	75.1	162.2
Former Coral activities (Note 2(b))	(3.2)	—	—
	85.8	75.1	162.2
Surplus on disposal of Fixed Assets and Investments	0.9	3.2	7.3
Less Depreciation	(24.6)	(19.6)	(37.0)
Trading Profit	62.1	58.7	132.5
Cost of Borrowing	11.0	8.6	19.0
Profit before taxation	51.1	50.1	113.5
United Kingdom and Overseas taxation (Note 4)	14.0	16.2	36.6
Profit after taxation	37.1	33.9	76.9
Attributable to outside shareholders	0.5	0.4	0.7
Preference Dividends	0.2	0.2	0.3
Earnings available for ordinary shareholders	36.4	33.3	75.9
Ordinary dividends paid and proposed	8.1	6.4	24.0
	28.3	26.9	51.9
Ordinary dividends paid and proposed — p/share	2.53p	2.3p	8.6p
Earnings per ordinary share (Note 6)	12.1p	11.9p	27.2p

NOTES:

- Sales by volume were below expectation reflecting the serious effect of the economic recession and on consequent pressure on consumer spending.
- Coral Acquisition**
 - The sales attributable to Coral for the period 2nd January, 1981 to 11th April, 1981 were £7.0m.
 - The loss from former Coral trading activities during the period 2nd January, 1981 to 11th April, 1981 is attributable to the seasonal nature of these activities.
 - It is not intended to publish Coral consolidated accounts for 1980 as this would have meant deferring integration and the cost of this delay could not be justified. Since acquisition the main Coral activities other than racing and holidays have been integrated with existing management companies of Bass.
- A provision of £1.9m (1980: £1.9m) for the Bass Employee Share Ownership Scheme has been made against the net revenue from Bass activities.
- Taxation has been provided at 27.5% (1980: adjusted to 32.5%) of profits before taxation.
- An interim dividend of 2.53p per share (2.3p) on the ordinary shares will be paid on 24th July, 1981.
- Earnings per ordinary share are calculated by dividing the earnings available for ordinary shareholders £36.4m (£33.3m) by 300.6m (279.4m) being the average number of ordinary shares of 25p in issue during the period. The number of shares ranking for dividend is 320.1m.
- During the 28 week period ended 11th April, 1981 capital expenditure was £61.6m (1980: £54.8m).
- The above figures have not been audited.

NOTICE OF ISSUE

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the undermentioned Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

Mid Southern Water Company

(Incorporated in England on the 27th July, 1980 by the Frimley and Farnborough District Water Act, 1980.)

OFFER FOR SALE BY TENDER OF

£8,000,000

9 per cent. Redeemable Preference Stock, 1986

(Which will mature for redemption at par on 30th June, 1986)

Minimum Price of Issue—£100 per £100 Stock

yielding at that price, together with the associated tax credit at the current rate of 37 1/2% of the distribution £12.85 per cent.

This Stock is an investment authorised by Section 1 of the Trustee Investments Act, 1961 and by paragraph 10 (as amended in its application to the Company) of Part II of the First Schedule thereto. Under that paragraph, the required rate of dividend on the Ordinary Capital of the Company was 4 per cent. but, by the Trustee Investments (Water Companies) Order 1973, such rate was reduced to 2.5 per cent. in relation to dividends paid during any year after 1972.

The preferential dividends on this Stock, which will rank proportionately for dividend with the existing Preference Stocks, will be at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum without deduction of tax. Under the imputation tax system, the associated tax credit at the current rate of Advance Corporation Tax (37 1/2% of the distribution) is equal to a rate of 3 67/8 per cent. per annum.

A deposit of £10 per £100 nominal amount of Stock applied for must accompany each Tender, which must be received at the offices of Deloitte Haskins & Sells, New Issues Department, P.O. Box 207, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4P 4JX in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for Mid Southern Water Stock" not later than 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 17th June, 1981. The balance of the purchase money will be payable on or before 10th July, 1981.

STATUTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The Company was incorporated by special Act of Parliament in 1983, and now supplies water in an area of approximately 580 square miles in parts of Berkshire, Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex to a population of approximately 625,000. In addition, large supplies of water are afforded under agreements to various Government Establishments. The length of trunk and service mains is some 2,445 miles and the average daily quantity of water supplied by the Company is 41.5 million gallons.

The present issue is being made to provide funds to repay Bank overdrafts, to finance the remainder of expenditure on the main from Egham and to provide funds for capital expenditure incurred or to be incurred on other new works, new mains and extensions of mains and to provide for the redemption of capital referred to above. The Company's programme of capital expenditure is a continuing one and further capital will be raised as and when required.

Copies of the Prospectus, on the terms of which alone Tenders will be considered, and Forms of Tender may be obtained from:

Seymour, Pierce & Co.,

10, Old Jewry, London, EC2R 8EA.

Barclays Bank Limited

65, High Street, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3RQ.

or from the Company's principal office, Frimley Green, Camberley, Surrey GU16 6HZ.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Westland's wings clipped

Hopes of some growth at Westland Aircraft to follow up last year's 76 per cent jump in pretax profits have been quashed by the interim figures. Instead of the 30 per cent improvement generally expected, the outcome was an 18 per cent upturn to £12.4m pretax. That, and the warning that the second half will not match last year's second half suggest a repeat performance of last year's £27m with the consolation that the total dividend should be up by at least 9 per cent to put the shares at 143p on a yield of 6 per cent.

All of which has a mildly academic quality compared to the effects positive news from the Ministry of Defence on the EH101 contract would have on the share price. Mr Nott's surging in demand £2.75m from Westland should this contract go ahead as well as the indications of higher private capital commitment to the development of the WG 30 has already taken some of the gloss off this news but the announcement should, nevertheless, be good for 20p on the shares.

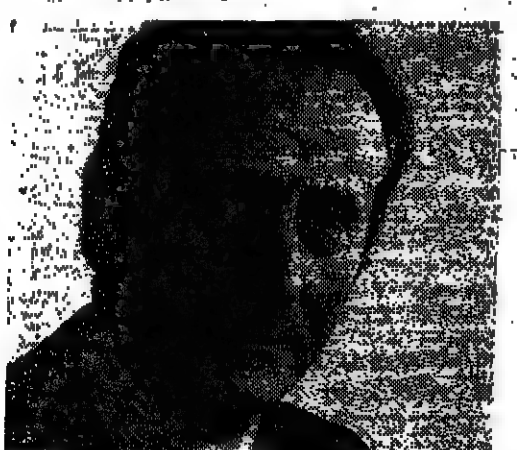
So Westland, having put its financial and management house in order last year, is still overwhelmingly dependent on the whims of the MoD. In helicopters, the only long-term way out of this is to improve its civilian sales which may well prove to be a function of management as much as of products. But, for the company as a whole, the key may well turn out to be the performance of the control equipment and systems division which increased operating profits from £2.5m to £3.8m compared with the roughly static £6.4m from helicopters and the dip from £1.1m to £413,000 in hovercraft.

This rate of growth and quality of earnings deserves something substantially better than the fully taxed p/e ratio of 5.4 for the group as a whole and that would suggest that the scale of contribution from this division by the year end may well mean that it will play a bigger part in the raising of the shares. Certainly, a capitalisation of £40m to £50m for this division alone would not seem excessive against a total currency of £85m for the group as a whole.

Hanson Trust A conglomerate that works

Even though its takeover skills are being fully tested Hanson's consistent profit record is still almost a byword, and its reputation will be further enhanced by the interim profits increase of 13 per cent to £18.2m. As is its custom, Hanson has also raised the dividend by the same amount to 6.07p gross.

Like all conglomerates, Hanson hopes that lower performance from some of its companies will be offset by a stronger showing elsewhere. In this last six months, the United States has provided much of the action with Caribbrock, the textile group, doing particularly well, with some 75 per



Sir James Hanson, chairman of Hanson Trust.

cent of turnover and 70 per cent of operating profit now earned across the Atlantic. The sale for \$50m of the McDonough cement interests gives Hanson the choice of reducing United States borrowings or making further purchases.

The recession obviously hit some of the British companies hard, Barbour Campbell, the yarn and thread company, and many of the engineering interests are suffering from reduced demand, although they are still profitable. But the newfound strength of the dollar could mean an even bigger United States contribution in the second

half. If the dollar had been converted at \$2 to the pound rather than \$2.23, another £1.7m would have been added to profits.

Since Hanson revealed its five months' profits when announcing April's \$25m Euro-bond issue the interim result was no surprise. But the currency factor, high American interest rates, and the continued weakness of British industry must make the second half less predictable. On present showing, however, £47m pretax does not look out of reach.

On the conservative assumption that the full dividend also goes up by 13 per cent to 13.7p gross, the shares are on a prospective yield of 5 per cent at last night's price of 274p, up 4p.

LOFs Victim of the oil glut

The shipping scene is everywhere flecked with cloud, except in tankers where it is black. Tankers are the speciality of London & Overseas Freighters. The line has nothing to look forward to until OPEC oil cuts and an eventual recovery in demand eliminate the world glut, and the only consolation for LOFs is that it now has only one large tanker. It also has two small ones and a half interest in a third, and these can ply for what business there is because they get into small ports.

Shareholders were warned a year ago that the group had no plans to sell further ships, and the outcome for the year to last March was a pretax loss of £127,000, against a profit of £4.2m in 1979-80. Last year did not benefit at all from a surplus on the disposal of vessels; the year before it boosted profits by £4.2m. The group remains liquid, and cash balances were more than 40p a share in the last balance sheet.

Net assets in total are probably twice yesterday's share price of 43p, down 2p despite an unchanged dividend. Apart from the oil glut ending, LOFs must also hope that high interest rates on dollars will fall while they remain high in sterling.

Elsewhere in shipping, the end of the United States coal strike should help the dry cargo trades; grain is reasonably busy—the United States is once again about to sell grain to the Soviet Union but the outlook for ores is discouraging, reflecting the world steel slump. The main hope must be of world trade recovery some time next year. Even so, shipping shares characteristically sell at big discounts to assets, and the recent acquisition of Furness Withy point to take-bid battles for Stag Line and the CY Tung over possibilities. But as a sector, shipping at present lacks excitement.

It is game and set to Allianz but Eagle Star is clearly not prepared yet to concede the match. Yesterday, the Eagle Star management was promised to take its battle for full independence to the Office of Fair Trading, the German Kartell office, the EEC commission and anyone else prepared to listen. All of which hardly advances the cause of EEC harmonization and liberalization of insurance business—something that British companies had hitherto been crying out for.

It is also hard to imagine what Eagle Star hopes to achieve particularly as Allianz adhered strictly to the Council for the Securities Industry rules in buying 28.1 per cent of the equity. At the same time yesterday's fall in the share price to 283p hardly lends support to the Eagle Star view that Allianz got its stake too cheaply even though the asset value is around 450p a share.

Eagle Star could, of course, be right if its intention is to prove that Allianz can expect a tougher fight if it plans to return for a full bid at a later date. But, in the short-term, shareholders could be better served if the dust were allowed to settle and the two groups got down to constructive talks.

Meanwhile, yesterday's falls throughout the insurance sector now that the excitement is over do not seem to support the theory that composites are heavily undervalued. Discounts on net assets of up to 50 per cent do exist, but the return on those assets has been dwindling fast. Investors may need further evidence of predatory interest before they can believe that the obvious potential locked up in historically high solvency ratios is about to be realized.

The Government has taken last week's slide in the pound with remarkable coolness and equanimity. Even the Opposition has failed to make much political capital out of the situation.

I have been waiting in vain for a front bench spokesman to accuse the Government of the final madness, first allowing the exchange rate to rise to levels that wiped out major sections of British industry, then allowing it to fall with such a thud that all survivors would surely be engulfed in a new tidal wave of inflation. Perhaps they are just biding their time.

Be that as it may, the Government has at least been consistent within the parameters imposed by its chosen philosophy. It has not intervened in the foreign exchange markets to prevent the pound going either up or down, largely for two reasons.

First, it believes that foreign exchange intervention, which either pumps money into the economy or drains it out at a price determined by the Government, is incompatible with a serious policy of domestic money control (though one suspects that hard-line monetary base advocates might argue that as long as the Government controls the money supply, the price of money—that is, interest rates—might just as well use foreign exchange intervention, too, as a monetary control technique).

Secondly, it believes that history has proved time and time again that the use of intervention to try to resist market pressures rarely works: markets generally win in the end.

But whether the Government can, or should, feel relaxed about the implications of what has happened is another matter. The most obvious worry at this stage must be the potential inflationary consequences. The defeat of inflation is, after all, the cornerstone of government economic policy.

When the Treasury made its Budget forecast one inflation in its central estimates for a 10 per cent rate by the fourth quarter of this year (with a 2 per cent margin of error either way) and for about 8 per cent

by the second quarter of 1982 (with a 4 per cent margin of error either way). That forecast was based on the assumption of a constant exchange rate. Any movement in the pound is supposed to alter the retail price index over the first six to twelve months, by 1 per cent for every 1 per cent change in sterling's average value against a basket of currencies. Since the Budget forecast, sterling's average value has fallen by about 5 per cent.

On the face of it then, there might seem to be no enormous damage done so far. The point, however, is that this is only the first round effect: it is also assumed that any change in sterling's value will work through much more fully over the medium term.

Moreover, it could be argued that given the relative importance of the dollar in the pricing of our imports, and sterling's fall of more than a fifth against the dollar this year, the first round effects could be rather larger than usual. Some economists would in any case argue that the impact of a falling pound makes itself felt in shop prices very much more rapidly than the Treasury allows.

What is certainly true is that even before the latest slide in sterling many forecasters saw the inflation rate bumping along the bottom this year and tending to rise modestly in 1982. It would be no surprise now to find most of the next batch of forecasts looking for a 12-15 per cent inflation rate in 1982.

Precisely what the more monetarist inclined ministers believe is likely to happen is not entirely clear. But it was no surprise to find Mr Nigel Lawson, the Financial Secretary at the Treasury, telling the Commons last week that over the long run the domestic inflation rate will be determined by the domestic money supply.

Now this piece is not intended as a polemic against Mr Lawson but important questions are raised by his remark, not least because it was he who doubted that last year's excessive money supply growth (15 per cent or so on the most generous of interpretations) would feed its way through into

a broadly similar inflation rate one or two years hence.

One of the cases more commonly put up as support for that line of thinking was that the "exceptional" nature of the oil factor in the sterling equation meant that for any given rise in the money supply the consequent rise in prices was likely to be less than it would have been under more normal circumstances.

But, if that was the case, then it would seem that some of the exceptional status attaching to sterling has now been removed and the prop for prices kicked from under.

It could, however, also be argued that even this does not matter since the underlying money supply appears to be back under control.

What follows from that line of argument is that any renewed inflationary pressures arising from the fall in sterling will simply not be accommodated. But, if that is the argument, then I would make three points.

The first is that one simply cannot deny that renewed inflationary pressures exist despite the general softness of world commodity prices. This should become abundantly clear in the June wholesale price figures.

Secondly, once one accepts that those inflationary pressures are there, then one must also accept that there are medium-term implications for the United Kingdom economy. It may be that control of the money supply can restrain the growth in nominal national income, but even the Government appears to have come to accept that within that total the split between the real and the inflationary components are unpredictable.

In other words, control of the money supply does not automatically mean that inflationary pressures cannot work their way into the price level. (And it certainly does not mean that the downward pressure on living standards can be avoided.)

Third, if the Government is indeed serious about maintaining such a tight hold on the money supply in the face of sharply higher import and working capital costs, then the outlook for

domestic interest rates hardly looks bright.

The trend in bank lending has, it is true, been more encouraging recently from the monetary control viewpoint. But that reflects destocking, which may now be all but over, and the fact that companies have not had to borrow so much to finance tax payments. Some companies have, moreover, been able to use rising issues proceeds to reduce their short-term call on the banks.

That is not the only worry on the monetary front, however. It is also clear that a great deal of United Kingdom resident money has been sitting in foreign currency deposits this year, either taking advantage of high dollar interest rates or simply waiting for the sterling bubble to burst. Will this money be repatriated if sterling stabilizes? If it is, will it have serious monetary implications?

Amid all this gloom, what is there that is bright in the picture? One would like to take a more sanguine view of export prospects, but even here there are potential problems.

For a start, a sustained disinflationary squeeze by the Americans must leave a question-mark over the prospective buoyancy of world trade, though the present rise in the dollar should draw in more imports, at least in the short term.

Secondly, sterling has not fallen a great deal in our principal European export market. If it remains overvalued in dollar terms, then that is ten times more the case in relation to continental currencies.

What is the Government doing? In the short term it appears to be concentrating on keeping short-term interest rates down and hoping that the international interest rate war will blow itself out. It may then be that the medium-term issue it faces will be rather different—namely, how it should respond to falling dollar interest rates and the possibility of a strong recovery in sterling: an old question from a rather different starting point.

John Whitmore

Hard times hit the gaming tables

Las Vegas. Mr Robert Fitzpatrick, a cab driver in this gambling resort for the past 11 years, complains that business is bad. "We're a good barometer," he says, rather rambling his role as economic soothsayer.

My business has dropped 25 per cent this year. The fares are up, there's no one at the Hilton and MGM Grand hotels) and the country's economy is shaky.

As most big American cities reel under the impact of mounting unemployment, high interest rates and sagging property values, Las Vegas, whose main industry is tourism, may not be a citadel of gloom, but is definitely feeling the pinch. Gambling revenues were down \$10m to \$408.5m in the first quarter of this year compared with 1980, and early returns show that the picture will not change in the second quarter.

Tourists are not flocking to gamble or stroll in the sun and that means that casinos and hotels are suffering. The number of the bigger hotels, card and dice tables stand empty, slot machines are silent and, in a city where you often needed to know someone who knew someone to get a choice room in one of the Strip's fancier hotels, the rooms now go begging.

Over breakfast a young Indian student staying at the Frontier Hotel, one of the more fashionable hostels, volunteered that even he was amazed at how cheap the rooms were. "I'm paying \$32 a night for this place—I mean you can't get a motel for that price any more."

During a few days in Las Vegas, how cheap the city was. The going rate for a half-filled cabaret and there is never any problem getting on to flights in or out of the city. In the past you had to book weeks in advance. Now arrivals are down some 15 per cent.

Atlantic City on the East Coast of the United States, Mr Reid says. He points out that Atlantic City has seen a 20 per cent drop in tourism for the first time since 1974. He is trying to lure British visitors to Las Vegas's baking moon-day sun during the slower summer months. "Our projections show that visitors to the United States from Britain are up 14 per cent this year. Of the 1.5 million who come from the United Kingdom to North America we hope to draw at least a quarter of a million or more here."

With Americans so recession-conscious Mr Bill Reid, manager of tourism for the city, says that he is trying to lure British visitors to Las Vegas's baking moon-day sun during the slower summer months. "Our projections show that visitors to the United States from Britain are up 14 per cent this year. Of the 1.5 million who come from the United Kingdom to North America we hope to draw at least a quarter of a million or more here."

There is still a warm welcome for visitors to Las Vegas, but casinos and hotels are now suffering from a drop in tourist numbers.

recreational dollar" with other entertainment services around the country, Mr Reid says. He also concedes that the catastrophic fire at the MGM Grand Hotel last November which left 84 dead, injured 700 and badly damaged the 26-storey hotel, and a second one at the Las Vegas Hilton, dealt the tourist business a savage blow. (The MGM Grand will reopen at the end of July.)

Las Vegas's recent decline cannot, however, be blamed on the growth of gambling in City, in New Jersey, has limited hotel space; and he adds:

"Our figures show that most people go there for about six hours, whereas the average stay here is two or three days. Atlantic City has some 60 million people from surrounding States to draw from."

Las Vegas's decline is still optimistic that the slump may soon end. Mr Alan Reid, at the Las Vegas News Bureau, says that building is still booming along the city's neon crowded main boulevard, where hotels sit shoulder to shoulder and climb ever higher into the sky. Several big Strip hotels are spending millions of dollars

to build new rooms, wings and convention halls and the city is ballyhooing the fact that 1982 is also the fiftieth anniversary of gambling in Nevada.

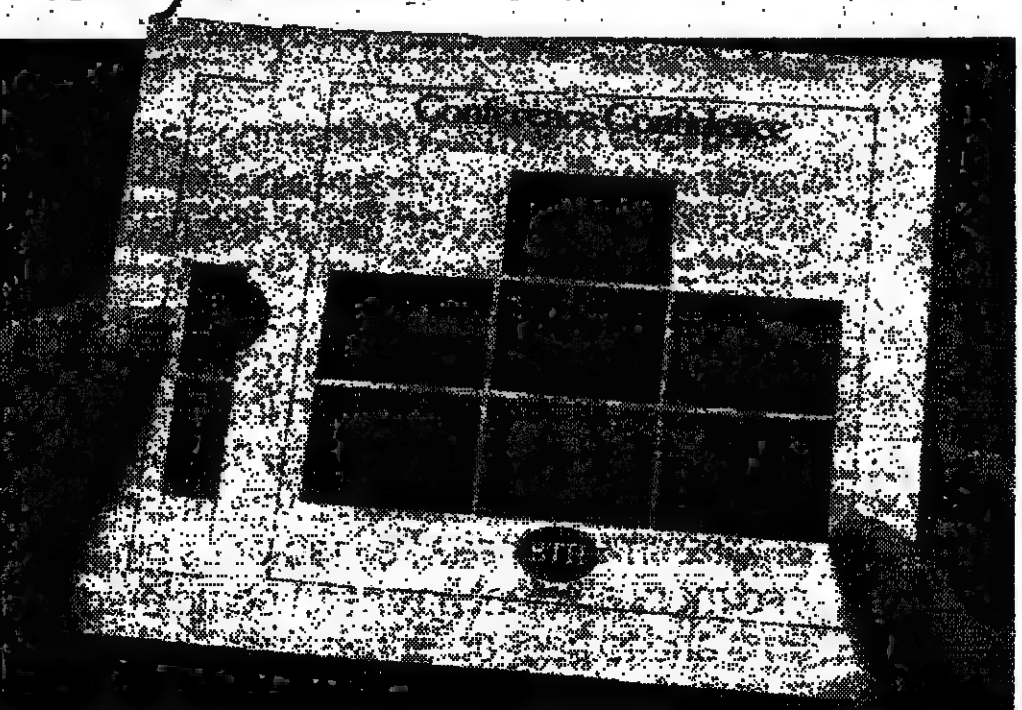
Casino Palace is one of the more flamboyant hotels that is continually expanding. It lists among its "key" employees entertainer Frank Sinatra, who usually sings in the Circus Maximus cabaret room. But it is rumoured that Sinatra may shortly become a cashless owner now that the Nevada Gaming Commission has restored his casino licence. This had been revoked seventeen years ago after he was reported to have played host to a Mafia chief.

In the old days Las Vegas was strictly an adults-only town. Now there is a dramatic shift in emphasis to try to entice families. Circus Circus, a hotel that features 24-hours-a-day free circus acts under its pink and white painted big top, offers families rooms for \$20 to \$25 a night, with no extra charge for children. While the youngsters watch the clowns, the parents can ply the fruit machines a few feet away.

Today, residents of Nevada still enjoy the second highest per capita income in the United States. In the neighbouring state of Utah the residents are hoping that President Reagan will not put the \$34,000m MX missile system in their state. The attitude in Las Vegas is that if the President chooses Nevada, it is a disaster. The project will create thousands of new jobs and be a big boost to the local economy.

Ivor Davis

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Royal Victoria Hotel, Southampton, Tel: 0703 6811 Telex 7170	Windsor Hotel, Weymouth, Tel: 01305 3333 Telex 81347
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Business Diary: Jaguar bares its fangs

John Egan, the 41-year-old chairman of BL's Jaguar subsidiary, is fast becoming the bogeyman of the British component industry. He has just sacked six suppliers and insisted that many more should share their contracts with rivals—to keep them on their toes.

Egan, who took over Jaguar 14 months ago, refuses to name the bad boys, but says: "Surely, it was often the high-grade suppliers, some of them with Ministry of Defence contracts, who let us down."

The motor trade has long held the opinion that Jaguar designs fine cars, but has no chance of competing effectively with Mercedes or BMW until their quality improves. One of the first things Egan did when he rejoined BL from Massey Ferguson last year was to go cap in hand to Mercedes to find out how they did it.

The answer was surprisingly simple. Most quality and reliability problems with cars can be traced back to faulty components, so Mercedes puts all components through a rigorous series of checks as soon as they arrive at the factory.

In some cases they even strip complicated assemblies to check individual parts. A single fault frequently leads to ruthless rejection of the entire batch and delayed payment.

Egan wasted little time in introducing similar systems at Jaguar's plant at Browns Lane, Coventry.

Anyone launching a new theatre company risks getting the bird in the present economic climate, but the directors of London's American Theatre Company are trying none the less to raise between £500,000 and £1m from corporate sponsors.

The company already has an impressive list of patrons, including Kenneth Williams, Carl Foreman and Patricia Neal. More than 150,000 Americans live in Britain, to whom authentic productions of American plays could be a box-office draw.

One of the directors is the actress Beth Porter (right), a New Yorker who works here and who, aptly enough, played the showbiz fixer, Kitty Schreiber in the television series *Rock Follies*. She told *Business Diary* yesterday that they were now trying to tap some of the 8,000 American companies in Britain for the funds to run a six-month season of plays.

Bruce Fireman, a director of merchant bankers Charterhouse Japhet, has been given a chance to live up to his name. Fireman, 37, had hardly taken up his present appointment as acting head of finance on the departure of Philip Ralph for GEC when he told John Hyde told him that he did not want to confirm him in that post.



The company, she says, is planning to present a single West End production later this year, while arranging for corporate sponsorship from companies' 1982-83 budgets to run the longer season next year. While firms may not be rushing to fork out money at present, she said they had at least one special desire to encourage sponsors: the American Theatre Company is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization in New York State, and since there are tax incentives for such sponsorship in the United States, American firms based here could pay out through their head offices and then collect the kudos in Britain.

Meanwhile, the group is holding a different sort of fund-raising effort on July 5, gala at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, a slightly belated celebration of American Independence Day.

Among those taking part are Elaine Stritch, John Bay and the cast of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. There will also be an excerpt from a new American musical, *Pecan Pie*, with music by Scott Joplin, which has yet to be seen even in the United States.

Being called Walter Scott may or may not be an advantage in Edinburgh financial circles, for, after all, the novelist of the same name was no great shakes as a manager of money.

The name does not seem to have done much harm, however, to Walter Grant Scott, a managing director of the Edinburgh investment managers Ivory and Stone. At 34 he is managing about £450m a year.

He is now joining the board of Systems Designers International on behalf of Independent Investment Company and institutional investors who earlier this year bought the National Enterprise Board's 26 per cent stake in SDL.

Ross Davies

The Guardian Investment Trust Company Limited

Results for year ending 31st March 1981:

Ten Year Record	Gross Revenue	Earnings per Share	Net Dividend	Net Asset Value
Year to 31st March	£'000	p.	p.	p.
1971	1,588	2.18	1.21	72.9
1979	3,162	3.18	3.15	122.5
1980	3,856	4.69	4.60	106.7
1981	3,981	4.78	4.70	147.7

Assets spread as follows:

UK 76% N. America 10% Far East 11%
Other Areas 3%

*Including special dividend of 0.70p

The Guardian Investment Trust Company Limited
P&O Building (2nd Floor), 122 Leadenhall Street, London EC3V 4QR
Tel: 01-283 2400.

Pegler 13pc down but shares rise

Shares of engineering group Pegler-Hattersley jumped 8p to 176p yesterday in spite of a 13 per cent drop in its pre-tax profits to £10.9m for the year to March 28. The dividend has been maintained at 13.6p gross.

Group sales of £112m against £110m were boosted by turnover of £9m from the first full year of European distributor Hovac, bought in late 1979. Group trading profits fell by two fifths to £4.43m, with the biggest fall in the building products division where demand has been very poor for more than a year. All British divisions made lower lower profits.

Associated companies increased their contribution from £4.93m to £6.15m with most of that coming from South Africa. The figures include nine months' profit from McEvoy sold towards the end of the year for £16.5m.

Part of that was used to eliminate debt, and the bulk remains on deposit while the group looks for acquisitions in the United Kingdom and abroad. Interest received in 1980-81 totalled £1m, against interest costs of £516,000, the year before.

Lower copper prices meant that stocks of copper-based alloys had to be depreciated by £710,000, against appreciation of £760,000 in 1979-80, before striking the pretax profit. An extraordinary credit of £1.5m includes profits on the McEvoy sale after group redundancy costs and provisions of £3.65m, reflecting the loss of 1,500 jobs.

Gilts recover their confidence

Gilts staged a modest rally yesterday on further consideration of the encouraging banking figures and the firmer pound.

Otherwise, the market was extremely subdued with leading equities still dominated by fears of a possible rights issue from BP. Although the day passed with no such call, the rumours continued unabated that BP will, whether it be this week or over the next year, make a fund raising call in the region of £400m. Last night a BP spokesman declined to comment.

It was enough to keep investors away and share prices, after opening slightly better, drifted lower during the day to perk up by the close. The troubled labour outlook, rising inflation and the interest rates eased, dealers reported reasonable buying activity.

Longs opened better and rises were consolidated through the day. Wall Street's firm opening also helped and by the close rises of up to 1 1/2 were made. After a £1 gain in the morning, shorts held a good rally to record rises of £1 at the better end.

The FT Index eased down 0.2 to 545.4 at 10 pm but by noon had fallen 3.8 to 541.8. It hovered at about this level for the rest of the afternoon to pick up and closed 3.3 down at 542.3.

Investors stayed away from blue chip shares which drifted aimlessly through the session. Dealers described slack trade with most leaders at narrowly mixed prices at the close. KCL 2p up at 278p and Glaxo a similar gain to 364p, were among the exceptions. Fisons ended 2p down at 146p, Dunlop 2p lower at 77p and Metal Box 6p at 178p. Bass, after previous day's results, was unchanged at 242p and British Aerospace was 4p off at 225p. Unilever stayed at 576p.

After the previous day's spotlight, both the banking and insurance sectors were dull. Royal Bank of Scotland, after talk of the possibility of a go-ahead for Hongkong Bank's bid slipped back 4p to 186p. The four clearers eased later on rumours of a potential United States bid, with Barclays 3p lower at 410p, Midland 4p at 331p and National Westminster

5p down at 358p. Lloyds eased 2p to 351p. Eagle Star, after Allianz's 28.1 per cent tender stake, came back from suspension to add 7p to 290p but closed back at 283p. The recent profit-taking in the other composites saw prices lower. GRE dropped 6p to 300p, General Accident lost 8p to 318p and Commercial Union 4p to 167p. Royal eased 10p to 32p, Phoenix 8p to 278p and Sun Alliance, after its big gains, 14p to 870p.

Buildings were another sombre sector and with no offer coming yet from RTZ for Tunnell findings, shares dropped back 12p to 309p. 5p below the offer price from TFW Ward, which fell 5p to 125p.

Housebuilders were also dull performers as sentiment had been looking for a downturn in interest rates.

The oil sector opened looking

ragged, overshadowed by talk of the BP rights issue. But shares picked up when an announcement followed, and firmed during the day. Jobbers reported stable selling orders from the United Kingdom and overseas clients and a number of new buyers in the United Kingdom. BP, after firming 4p to 358p, dropped back to 354p. Shell put on 2p to 348p and Lasso added 15p to 352p. TFCentral rose 6p to 226p, and Ultramar 5p to 448p.

Equity turnover for June 9 was £31,828m (bargains 15,468). Active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were BP, ICI, Distillers and GEC.

Traded options: A total of 931 contracts were completed, Lasso attracted 21, Marks and Spencer 16, Lounrho 5, ICI 124, and GEC 4.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	pence	date	total
Int or Fin	7.27(7.73)	3.3(3.97)	2.0(2.0)	5/8	4.9(3.0)
Barlow Hedges (F)	119.2(116.8)	6.5(11.38)	29.7(46.9)	16/10	8(12.25)
B Elliott (F)	6.11(12.27)	0.58(1.12)	6.22(6.68)	—	(5.0)
Elson & Robbins (I)	9.32(8.9)	0.88(0.92)	2.25(2.0)	26/8	(18.4)
T French (F)	4.77(4.67)	0.28(0.71)	9.59(18.93)	—	4.2(3.7)
Geavor Tin (F)	375(366)	18.2(16.1)	10.7(9.0)	—	1.07(1.07)
Hanson Tin (F)	—	0.13(4.62)	2.1(6.8)	—	1.07(1.07)
L & O F (F)	15.9(13.1)	0.38(0.52)	2.34(28.6)	5/5(5.5)	11/8
Nina Gold (F)	112.4(109.9)	10.8(12.5)	14.0(18.2)	4.75(5.5)	12/8
Pegler Hattersley (F)	68.5(73.3)	10.5(14.3)	1.62(4.08)	(0.94)	—
Unif Spring (I)	9.78(15.1)	0.17(1.02)	1.67(4.08)	50/6	(5.5)
Westland Air (I)	118.4(105.4)	12.4(10.6)	11.6(12.1)	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. — Loss; + includes special dividend of 1.0p.

This advertisement has been issued by British Sugar Corporation Limited

WHEN DOES
2+2=3?

IF YOU
MAKE
A MISTAKE.

Put two mis-matched companies together and you have a recipe for industrial muddle. And that is the risk if Berisford takes over British Sugar.

British Sugar as an independent company has a first-class track record.

Pre-tax profits have been increased six-fold since 1975; market share has been doubled. The £150 million investment programme to make key factories bigger and more efficient has been completed in time and to budget. British Sugar now has factories as good as the best in Europe.

Forecast pre-tax profits for 1981 are up by 43 per cent on 1980.

Forecast dividends for 1981 are up by 43 per cent on 1980.

British Sugar is united against the bid. Senior management, the other employees and Trade Unions which represent them have expressed vigorous opposition.

Why? Simply because they recognise that Berisford are primarily commodity traders, and ill-equipped to manage a capital-intensive industrial company.

And Britain is hardly so full of industrial success stories like British Sugar's, that it makes sense for shareholders to gamble on a merger between two fundamentally mis-matched companies.

British Sugar should remain successful and independent — through shareholders rejecting this risky bid.

REJECT THE BID.

BRITISH SUGAR
CORPORATION LIMITED
THE RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF

The publication of this advertisement has been approved by a duly authorised committee of the Board of British Sugar Corporation Limited. Each Director has taken all reasonable care to ensure that both the facts stated and the opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each Director of British Sugar Corporation Limited accepts responsibility accordingly.

B Elliott slips to £6m despite overseas lift

By Rosemary Unsworth

Overseas results ensured that B. Elliott, the machine tool manufacturer and engineering products group, stayed in profit last year. Pretax profits slipped from £13.8m to £5.5m in the year to March 31, while turnover rose slightly from £116.8m to £119.2m, with more than half of that going abroad.

About 90 per cent of profits came from the overseas operations with South Africa contributing £4.7m and showing an 83 per cent increase. North America's profits were maintained at £900,000 while Australia doubled its result to £400,000.

In the UK, machine tool and engineering made losses of £600,000 against £2m profit and merchandising profits went down

sharply from £5.5m to £740,000. Mr Mark Russell, the chairman, warned that there would be UK losses in the first half of this year with order books at the present low levels.

The final dividend has been more than halved to 4.3p gross, giving a total of 11.42p against 17.5p last year. The shares rose 2p to 166p after the announcement.

The group has charged £2.74m in closure costs below the line and £640,000 above it for redundancies on continuing operations. During the year the group shed one third of its 3,000 workforce with three factories ceasing operations. Further charges were up from £152,000 to £1.1m as borrowings rose from £476,000 to £6.6m.

Goldsmiths' 40 pc fall

After a more than doubled interest charge of £104,000, against £46,000, pretax profits of Northern Goldsmiths fell from £548,000 to £383,000 in the year to February 28.

A break-down of profits shows that the retail jewelry side slumped from £443,000 to £175,000, while the bookmaking section was steady at £208,000, compared with £205,000. Group turnover expanded from £13.19m to £15.99m. The board has lifted the gross dividend from 4.64p to 5.01p.

Geavor Tin omits dividend after loss

No dividend is being paid for the 12 months to March 31, 1981, by Geavor Tin Mines, against a total of 12p gross for the previous year. The company slumped from a pretax profit of £714,000 to a loss of £285,000. Turnover improved slightly, from £4.67m to £4.77m.

Barlow Holdings pays special dividend

Barlow Holdings, the London-based, plantation-owning and investment holding group, is paying a final dividend of 2.85p, as well as a special dividend of 1.42p, for 1980. This makes a total of 5.71p gross, against 4.28p gross last year. Pretax profits slipped from £3.97m to £3.3m on turnover down from £7.73m to £7.27m. Both the final and the special payment will be paid from realized profits — on the sale of Klabang Estate of £3.64m net.

Trident Computer gets placing on USM

Singer and Friedlander has arranged the placings of the unlisted securities market of 375,000 ordinary 10p shares in Trident Computer Services at 30p per share. The placing represents 15 per cent of the issued share capital.

Thomas French dips to £882,000

In spite of the recession, Thomas French and Sons achieved a pretax profit of £882,000 in the half-year to March 28, 1981. This compares with the record figure of £926,000 for the similar period last year. Turnover was up from £8.9m to £9.32m. The interim payment, gross, is being lifted from 2.85p to 3.21p.

French makes curtain styling products and electrical heating equipment.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Consolidated Credits	12%
C. Hoare & Co	12%
Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%
TSB	12%
Williams and Glyn's	12%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £250,000 or more, over £50,000 10%.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited
27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81	High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div	Yld %	P/E	July
76	39	39	Airprang Group	70	—	4.7	6.7	11.1	15.4
52	21	21	Armitage & Rhodes	48	—	1.4	2.9	19.8	45.7
200	924	924	Bardon Hill	200	—	9.7	4.9	7.5	12.8
104	88	88	Deborah Services	104	—	5.5	5.3	5.1	9.8
126	88	88	Frank Horsell	104	—	6.4	6.2	3.3	6.0
110	39	39	Frederick Parker	62	—	1.7	2.7	27.0	—
110	64	64	George Blair	64	—	3.1	4.8	—	—
110	39	39	Jackson Group	104	—	7.0	6.7	3.3	7.4
129	103	103	James Burrough	129	—	7.9	6.1	10.6	10.6
334	244	244	Robert Jenkins	316	—	31.3	9.9	—	—
55	50	50	Scantons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	8.5	17.9
224	126	126	Tordax Limited	197	—	15.1	7.7	7.6	13.0
23	8	8	Twinkl Ord	15	—	—	—	—	—
90	68	68	Twinkl 15%, UES	80	—	15.0	18.8	—	—
56	35	35	Unlock Holdings	42	—	3.0	7.1	6.5	10.3
103	81	81	Walter Alexander	102	—	5.7	5.6	5.6	9.0
263	181	181	W. S. Yeates	255	—	13.1	5.2	4.8	9.0

Gilts rally

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

Price Change pence 10 P E



La creme de la creme

Bilingual Secretary

Wembley Park

Roussel Laboratories, part of an international pharmaceutical company, are looking for an English/French bilingual Secretary with 5-6 years' experience of working at senior management level. Your role will include assisting the Managing Director and his PA, as well as secretarial duties for the Manager of the Overseas Companies Division. This will include full involvement in the programmes for overseas visitors. It is unlikely anyone under 25 would have sufficient experience for this position which requires excellent secretarial skills (French shorthand is not needed), a friendly outgoing personality and a neat, well-groomed appearance.

In addition to an excellent salary, we offer free lunches, BUPA, life, sickness and accident insurance, a pension scheme and four weeks' holiday.

For an application form, please contact: Mrs Elizabeth Bedford, Roussel Laboratories, Roussel House, Wembley Park, Middlesex, HA9 0NF. Telephone: 01-903 1454.

ROUSSEL

P.A.

sought by President of International Federation

to join staff at Headquarters in Milano, Italy, and accompany him in his travel. Person should be of English mother-tongue standard, 30-40 years old and have a good knowledge of Italian. Staff will travel to America, Middle East and throughout Europe for a year. Two months technical training given. Preference given to those with additional European languages.

Immediate availability required.

Please write to
Publicitas,
Box No. 811914
Via E. Filiberto 4, Milano, Italy.

SENIOR SECRETARY/PA
COMPUTER SERVICES COMPANY

c. £5,500 City

This is an outstanding career opportunity for a secretary with previous high level experience to make a positive career step upwards.

We're United Computing, one of Europe's leading computer services companies, providing specialist software and computer-based solutions to clients throughout the world.

As Secretary/P.A. to our Personnel Director you'll be liaising with senior management throughout the organization as well as becoming fully involved with a wide variety of personnel work.

Naturally you'll need first class secretarial skills, plus tact and diplomacy in dealing with people.

Salary will be negotiable around £6,500 enhanced by attractive benefits.

For details please telephone or write to Helen Gardner, Personnel Director, United Computing, Fourmost House, 12-22 West Street, Epsom, Surrey. Telephone (78) 29678.

Sie finden bei uns ein Arbeitsklima, in dem Sie sich wohlfühlen und beruflich weiterentwickeln können. Wir suchen eine

Abteilungssekretärin in München für unsere internationale Zeichnungsstelle.

Sie schreiben die Abteilungsentscheidungen in englisch und deutsch und erledigen allgemeine Sekretariatsaufgaben wie Telefon-/Telefaxdienst, Reisebuchung, Reisevorbereitung. Sie unterstützen unser internationales Team bei seiner weltweiten Tätigkeit.

Wenn Sie perfekt maschinenschriftlich können, die englische und deutsche Sprache zu Wort und Schrift beherrschen, gute Umgangsformen und ein sicheres Auftreten haben, dann sollten wir uns kennenlernen. Interviews finden in London statt. Der Einsatz wird gut bezahlt, vorbildliche Sozialleistungen und ein angenehmes Arbeitsklima.

Sie schicken Ihre Bewerbung mit allen wichtigen Unterlagen an:

Allianz Versicherungs-AG, Personalabteilung, Königsplatz 22, 8000 München 44, Germany. Wir bieten Freude am Beruf in kollegialer Klima.

SCIENCE GRADUATE
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ROLE

£6,500-£8,000

A science graduate with secretarial experience and qualifications to assist widely travelling technical secretaries in a major international company in NW10. Excellent benefits and opportunity to use your degree.

01-730 5148 (24 hrs.)

(consultants)

International Affairs
£6,000+

Make good use of your German when you assist a client, a charming lawyer, who specialises in international company law. No short-handling required but a good command of English and good written and spoken French essential. For more information please call

Josephine Harrison, 58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3.

Graduate Life Secretarial
01-621 0566

LES AMIS DU VIN
£25,000

Fast expanding wine company needs a mature, capable PA to assist the Directors. This is a superb opening for an all round Administrator with an "A" level Secretarial experience. Short-handling plus good written and spoken French essential.

Details to: LADY 51 CHILTERN ST. LONDON, W1 or Ring Neville Abraham on 01-438 3885

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Top calibre German speaking Secretary to two Directors. £5,000-£7,000.

SPANISH within the sound of Bow Bells. Experienced Secretary for MD. Lots of SPANISH and can loan scheme and four weeks' holiday.

22 Charing Cross Road WC2
01-536 374/5
Recruitment Consultants

DANISH SPEAKING SECRETARY
£7,000

If you have a good secretarial background, fluent Danish/English, excellent written and spoken Danish, excellent secretarial skills, a neat, well-groomed appearance, a friendly outgoing personality and a neat, well-groomed appearance.

Details to: LADY 51 CHILTERN ST. LONDON, W1 or Ring Neville Abraham on 01-438 3885

Executive Secretary
(Male) Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabian Parsons is part of one of the world's largest and most successful design and engineering construction companies. We are Managing Engineers on the vast Yanbu project on the Red Sea Coast where a complete city is being built.

A vacancy has arisen for an Executive Secretary to work at top management level. This is a rare opportunity for an experienced male secretary to use the skill and judgement gained over several years in a similar position. You must have sound secretarial experience at senior level and be able to adopt a mature and flexible approach and be able to work on your own initiative. M120560 wpm Shorthand/Typing is essential. Contracts are offered on 18 month, renewable, single status together with an excellent tax free salary, generous UK leave with air fares paid and some of the finest living, working and recreational facilities to be found in the Middle East.

Please write with full career details to Mark Stacey c/o The Ralph M. Parsons Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 100, New Bridge Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 0EH, who are assisting Saudi Arabian Parsons in filling this important post.

PARSONS

Saudi Arabian Parsons

WP OPERATOR/SECRETARY

£5,000-£7,500 net of tax

Vauxhall Bridge

Inmarsat, a new international communications organisation, offers excellent employment conditions including five weeks holiday, pension, life and health insurance schemes to a well qualified secretary with first-class secretarial skills, including experience of word processing.

Working in a small but growing multi-national team, you'll provide the full range of secretarial services, coping with highly technical documentation and irregular hours at conference times.

Confidentiality and a good sense of judgment are essential qualities. Experience in an international organisation and a knowledge of languages would be useful.



For an application form and further information on Inmarsat please telephone 01-720 2266 or write to: Director of Administration and Finance Division, INMARSAT, Market Towers, 1 Nine Elms Lane, London SW8 5NQ.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

SHORTHAND-TYPIST/
COPY READER

This permanent post involves some audio and copy-typing to a very high standard, as well as copy-reading and secretarial and administrative responsibility. Candidates should have a perfect command of the English language and have had a good general education and several years' experience. They must be capable of assuming responsibility for the checking of documents and, from time to time, organizing the work of a small typing team. A good knowledge of French is desirable.

Salary range after taxation and in accordance with United Nations Rules: £2,000-£4,500. Guidelines rising by annual increments of 1,000 guilders. U.N. allowances, pensions, etc.

Applications, accompanied by a curriculum vitae, should be addressed to the Registrar, International Court of Justice, Peace Palace, 2517 JC, The Hague.

BORDER TELEVISION

REQUIRES

SECRETARY/PA

The Sales Director and Sales Manager require a smart and capable person able to work on own initiative in the running of our London Sales Office. This is an important position which requires diplomacy, discretion and enthusiasm, as it involves contact with members of the Company at all levels, and also with our clients. Shorthand and accuracy in typing essential. Own office. Hours 9.30-5.45. Age preferred 24-32. Salary £7,000 per annum plus lunch vouchers and five weeks' holiday.

Please contact: B. C. Birch, Sales Director, Border Television Ltd., 33 Margaret Street, London W1N 7LA. Tel. 01-333 4711

c. £6,750 South Kensington, SW7
SECRETARY/P.A.
TO SENIOR PARTNER

INTERNATIONAL CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Applications are invited from well-educated and well-groomed Secretaries, aged 30-40, who have proven secretarial experience and enjoy working under pressure. The successful candidate will be responsible to the Senior-Partner for all his correspondence and other associated duties, including organising U.K. and overseas travel arrangements.

Essential qualities include discretion, good telephone manner, the ability to communicate effectively at all levels, a flexible approach to work and impeccable secretarial skills.

Please apply privately in writing, enclosing a.v. to: Rosemary Mogilner, Buckle and Partners, 2 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4LQ.

SOCIAL CONCERN

£5,500

Join this distinguished of the most lively locations in London. Age is immaterial to if you have a deep interest in people, secretarial skills and a keen eye for detail, you will be a valuable asset to our team.

For more information, call Sue Pocha, 58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3.

Graduate Life Secretarial
01-621 0566

ADVERTISING

Trendy Covent Garden Agency is looking for a creative A/C Group Secretary with good skills. Excellent prospects. Salary around £5,000.

937 4336

THAT AGENCY
165 Kensington High St., W.8
Open until 7 pm on evenings
(Staff Consultants)

Consultant Surgeon
Wimpole St

Medical experience unnecessary but good secretarial and social qualifications essential.

Salary £5,000
Tel. 01-583 2480

Radiant Receptionist

Required

Minimum 2 years' experience in a similar position. Good telephone manner, good written and spoken English, and a keen eye for detail. Salary £5,500-£6,000.

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Graduate Life Secretarial
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ARCHITECT

Requires shorthand secretary (25/40) for Partner and his team in busy practice in Camden Town. Salary to around £8,000.

Please telephone
01-485 4161

RESEARCH TRADING AND TRAVEL

PA/Administrator working alongside young, dynamic chairman of trading company. Good educational background and excellent secretarial skills. Salary £5,000-£6,000.

For more information, call Sue Pocha, 58-60 Houndsditch, E.C.3.

JOSE GARCIA, NORBORN VIADUCT (Epsom, Surrey)

Stella Fisher
IN THE STRANDCOULD YOU CONTROL
A SMALL ARMY OF
ARCHITECTS
IN CHELSEA?

This is a challenging and exciting opportunity for a young, energetic and ambitious individual to take control of a small army of architects in Chelsea. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the firm, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Stella Fisher Human Resources
170 Strand, W.C.2R. 01-636 6644
Recruitment Consultants

Secretary PA

The GNC is the primary body for training in England and Wales and is seeking a Secretary PA to assist in the running of the office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

GNC
The GNC is the primary body for training in England and Wales and is seeking a Secretary PA to assist in the running of the office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

BILINGUAL FRENCH
£4,000 + MORTGAGE

Major firm of Financial Services is seeking a Bilingual French Secretary to assist in the running of the office. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

ADMIN ASSISTANT

£5,000-£5,500

Have you worked in an Architect's office or somewhere similar? If you are a friendly, efficient and organised individual, we would like to hear from you. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

JUNGE
SEKRETARIN

mit guten Deutschkenntnissen für Tätigkeit in Deutschland. Zum 1. September 1981 gesucht. Bewerberinnen sollten über eine abgeschlossene Berufsausbildung verfügen und in der Lage sein, sich in einem internationalen Umfeld zu bewegen. Interessierte bitten wir, ihre Bewerbungsunterlagen an: Jung & Partner, Postfach 100, D-1000 Berlin 10, zu übersenden.

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Recruitment Consultants

SALES ADMIN
UP TO £5,000

Join this exciting and fast growing company as a Sales Administrator. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

Two Secretaries for
W.I. Solicitors

Working for partner mainly conveyancing until 5.30 p.m. Working for conveyancing assistant until 5.30 p.m. Holiday arrangements honoured.

Tel. Lucy Jackson
01-405 2299
NO AGENCIES please

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Required for International Recruitment Company based in London. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY/P.A.
to the
MANAGING DIRECTORS

Required by a progressive modern company. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PLASTIC SURGEON
CONSULTANT

Requires nurse to assist with plastic surgery. Good salary and benefits. Reply with references to: 0245 G. The Times.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SOLICITORS

Require immediately an audio secretary with experience in legal work. Should be able to work under pressure and have a good knowledge of the law. Salary £5,000-£6,000.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

FRENCH MANUFACTURER with
new patent product for
body care and hygiene. seeks
experienced distributors in
chemical and consumer goods
markets to organize the distribution
of the product in France, Italy,
Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium,
Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria,
Netherlands, Portugal, Greece, Turkey,
Cyprus, Israel, etc.

Secretarial and Non-Secretarial
Appointments

TRADITIONAL MAYFAIR HOTEL

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

for the General Manager's office. Variety in correspondence. Good accurate typing essential together with enthusiasm, a willingness to learn and to be part of a small team.

Very good conditions. Meals provided.
Please telephone 01-499 7070.

ARTS BOOK PUBLISHING

We are looking for an experienced, highly efficient Secretary, aged 25-35 with impeccable shorthand and typing to work for our Marketing Director.

The job would suit someone who would enjoy dealing with people at all levels and working in a stimulating environment involved with international book sales and marketing. To apply please telephone or write, enclosing CV and day time telephone number to:

Stella Fisher Human Resources
170 Strand, W.C.2R. 01-636 6644
Recruitment Consultants

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
TELEVISION

The Independent Broadcasting Authority, based in Knightsbridge, requires an Assistant Secretary for varied an interesting work in the office of the Director of Television.

Applicants must have good secretarial skills, experience through formal courses; 2 years' office experience, pleasant telephone manner; the willingness to work as part of a team. Conditions of employment are attractive with a starting salary in the range £4,413-£5,473; 4 weeks' annual holiday; subsidised meals; season ticket loan scheme; pension scheme.

For an application form please telephone 01-584 7011, extension 390.

BILINGUAL
SECRETARY/P.A. £5,500

Based in a prestigious (Mayfair) office, the successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

EXPERIENCED
SECRETARY

Required for private medical practice. SW2. Excellent salary and benefits. Reply with references to: 0245 G. The Times.

INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE OF
COMMUNICATIONS

Required for a Secretary to work in small office in Knightsbridge. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, ensuring that all projects are completed on time and to budget. The role involves a high level of organisation, communication and leadership skills. The successful candidate will be rewarded with a competitive salary and a generous benefits package.

TEMPERING TIMES

ADVANTAGE
TEMPORARIES!

If your secretarial super-
powers are at a senior level
with matching skills, if
you can cope with stress, if
you know all about the
latest electronic typewriter,
YOU ARE IN DEMAND.
Summer is increasing our
clients' demand for good
temporaries to take advantage
of the situation. Ring
Elizabeth Sogod.
SENIOR SECRETARIES
3/5 Trumpington Street
01-606 1811

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of JAY JAY MARINE
Limited, a company incorporated in
England, the Court has appointed
Mr. J. J. MARINE as Liquidator of
the above-named company. The
Liquidator's office is at 10, Abchurch
Lane, London E.C.4A. The Liquidator
will receive all claims against the
company and will distribute the
assets of the company to the creditors.
Dated this 10th day of May 1981.
J. J. MARINE, Liquidator.

PINCONE PUBLICATIONS

Notice is hereby given that pursuant
to Section 203 of the Companies Act,
1948 that a Meeting of the
Shareholders of the above-named
company will be held at New Cavendish
Square, London W.1, on Tuesday, the
15th day of June 1981, at 2.30 p.m.
for the purpose of the election of
Directors and the appointment of
Auditors. The Liquidator of the
company, Mr. J. J. MARINE, will
be present at the Meeting and will
be empowered to receive and sign
any proxy or other document in
connection with the Meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICES

In the Matter of P. V. H. FRANK
Limited, a company incorporated in
England, the Court has appointed
Mr. P. V. H. FRANK as Liquidator of
the above-named company. The
Liquidator's office is at 10, Abchurch
Lane, London E.C.4A. The Liquidator
will receive all claims against the
company and will distribute the
assets of the company to the creditors.
Dated this 10th day of May 1981.
P. V. H. FRANK, Liquidator.

COMMERCIAL SERVICES

TELEX. Telephone answering and
typing services. Excellent salary
and benefits. Reply with references
to: 0245 G. The Times.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FRENCH MANUFACTURER with
new patent product for
body care and hygiene. seeks
experienced distributors in
chemical and consumer goods
markets to organize the distribution
of the product in France, Italy,
Spain, Germany, Holland, Belgium,
Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria,
Netherlands, Portugal, Greece, Turkey,
Cyprus, Israel, etc.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY
COUNCIL STOCK
Barnard Castle, Hertfordshire. Registered
Financial Consultants. We are seeking
experienced financial consultants to
advise on the sale of the Council's
investment portfolio. The successful
candidate will be responsible for the
day-to-day running of the office, ensuring
that all projects are completed on time
and to budget. The role involves a high
level of organisation, communication and
leadership skills. The successful candidate
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PERSONAL CHOICE



Leu Ayres in *All Quiet on the Western Front* (BBC 2, 8.30 pm) directed in 1931 by Lewis Milestone.

● **HANGING FIRE:** the state of Israel (BBC1, 10.05 pm) is no more topical now than it would have been at any time following the birth of the state a generation ago. The country has not been out of the headlines for more than two days at a time since then. There is nothing in these three films — tonight's is the first — about the jet's raid on the Israeli nuclear reactor earlier this week or the tension over the Sam-6 missiles in Lebanon (for coverage of the latter, see tonight's *TV EYE*, ITV, 8.30). These are reflective pieces, with Jews commenting on the conflicts within their own society and examining their own doubts about the future. Their topicality, if there is any, is to look for it, lies in the fact that Israelis go to the polls on June 30.

● **You and I may agree endlessly over whether ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT** (BBC 2, 8.30) is, overall, the greatest war film of them all. But I doubt very much that we will disagree over those famous sequences which, 50 years and a thousand war films later, are still unsurpassed: the tracking shots across the trenches as all hell is let loose; the young German's soliloquy to his dead French victim in the shell-hole; the sad backward glance of the soldier-ghosts as they march away; the boots that link the dead with the next-to-die. And, above all, the final, beautiful image that hovers silently against the monstrous cruelty of war: the hand reaching out for the butterfly as the sniper takes aim.

● **We were wrong if we supposed that when Fred Housego, the London cabbie who was the Mastermind title because he knew all there was to know about the Tower of London, that was the end of the matter. It wasn't.** Tonight (BBC1, 9.25) Mr. Housego sticks to his last and answers further questions about the tower in *INTERNATIONAL MASTERMIND*. His opponents, from Australia, New Zealand and the Republic of Ireland will be tested on, respectively, the administrative of 20th century United States presidents, Tolstoy's *Lord of the Rings*, and the history of rock music. Battle will be joined in Sydney's Opera house.

● **Last night, on Radio 3, we learnt why the Chinese went wild about the touring BBC Symphony Orchestra last month.** This afternoon (Radio 3, 3.00) that knowledge is underlined by a two-hour recording of another BBC SO concert in Peking's Hong Tai Theatre. We hear the Brahms No. 3, the Enigma Variations and Nicholas Maw's *Sonata for strings and two horns* (soloists Alan Civil and Michael Baines). ... More good music later tonight on Radio 4 (9.05) — Dvorak's *Symphony No. 8* played by the BBC Northern SO. What an outpouring of melodic! Listen to it, "New World" addicts, and prepare to transfer your allegiance to it.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (c) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by
Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC1

6.40 am Open University: Low Pay, 7.05 Postscript, 7.30 Handicapped in the Community. 9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Mao Tse-tung, 9.47 Every Day Maths, 10.10 Merry-go-Round, 10.35 Jackie MacGuffery's Romance, 11.05 It's Maths, 11.30 The Coastline of Wales. Closedown at 11.50.
1.15 pm News, 1.30 Chock-a-Block for the very young viewer. Closedown at 1.45. 2.00 You and Me: another programme for the tiny tots.
2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time (the garden), 2.40 Television Club: A Place Like Home: Tommy. Closedown at 3.00.
3.55 Play School: The Secret of the Mountain. Also on BBC2 at 11.00 am. 4.20 The Feds: the Penelope Phipps cartoon. 4.40 Oscar, Kina and the Laser. Three-part series about a magic laser and a kidnapped boy.
5.00 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Blue Peter: Results of the

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Mining, 7.05 Statistics: sampling, 7.30 Maths: Double and Subtraction. 7.50 Play School: Same as BBC1, 3.55 (The Secret of the Mountain). Closedown at 11.25.
2.00 International Tennis: Live coverage of the Stella Aroniss Grass Court Championships, from The Queen's Club, London. Can John McEnroe make it a hat trick in this tournament? The commentators are Dan Grosse, John Barrett, Mark Cox and Richard Evans. Highlights of play tonight at 11.30pm.
5.15 Open University: A Local Government System. 5.40 The Greek Liturgy. 6.05 Housing.

Thames

9.30 For Schools: Healthy hearts and lungs, 9.52 All about corners, 10.09 How micro-processors affect our lives, 10.31 Fun-facts, 10.53 A-level Physics, 11.00 Metamorphosis, 11.27 Greenwich, 11.44 Cartoon version of Kossini's The Thieving Magpie.

12.00 The Ark Stories: new series. Animated story, with Percy Edwards doing the animal voices, 12.10 Get up and Go! for the very young. With Beryl Reid.
12.30 The Sailwings: Australian wartime family saga.

1.00 News, 1.20 Thames area news, 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish scene series. An eye-witness moment over the hill for dinner.
2.00 Here Today: Including Toni Sopani's recipe of the week. And a song from Fred Wedlock.

Blue Peter: competition for the best designed Royal Wedding plane.
5.45 News, 5.55 Regional news magazines, 6.20 Nationwide: Mary Marquis, from Reporting Scotland, presents the Grass Roots item.
6.55 Tomorrow's World: The glowing insect that tells you how suitable your soil is for planting potatoes. Also, new treatment for cancer.
7.20 Top of the Pops: with Jimmy Saville and Legs and Co. 7.55 The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy: Episode 2 of this space fantasy. The Earth has been destroyed. Arthur Dent and Ford Prefect are on the spacecraft that demolished it. Now they face an awful decision (r).
8.30 Butterflies: Last episode. Rita (Wendy Craig) faces the ultimate temptation when her husband and sons are away. The danger is in the shape of a small, friendly, Leonard (Bruce Montague).
9.00 News: with John Edmunds.

1840-1895: 6.30 Brickwork, 6.55 Tex Avery Double Bill: two cartoons — Northwest Hounded Police, and Red Hot Rangers. 7.00 101 Dalmatians: subtitles for the hard of hearing.
7.25 Delia Smith's Cookery Course: How to succeed at preserving. Spiced plum chutney, and strawberry.
7.30 The Experts of Power: Robert McKenzie interviews David Steel, the leader of the Liberal Party. How his political life and philosophy.
7.45 News: with John Edmunds. 8.00 News: with John Edmunds. 8.10 News: with John Edmunds.

the most famous war film of all time. The First World War seen through the eyes of German soldiers. Said to be the most complete version of the film in existence. Starring Lew Ayres, Louis Wolheim, Slim Summerville. Director: Lewis Milestone (see Personal Choice).
10.45 Newsnight: bulletins and analysis.
11.30 International Tennis: Highlights of today's play in the Stella Aroniss Grass Court Championships, from The Queen's Club in London. Ends at 12.15.

(John Mills) comes to be locked out of his job as employer of the Sam-5 missiles in the Bekaa valley of Lebanon which have brought the threat of a Middle East war closer.
9.00 Fanny Ma: Part 7 of this comedy-drama. Comedy-drama. Teddy Gibson proposes marriage to Iris, and the family are about to begin a new courtship. With Jimmy Lewis, Pamela Stephenson, Andrew Faulstich.

10.00 News from ITN. And Thames news headlines.
10.30 Thames Report: A follow-up to last night's disturbing film about the mentally handicapped. What alternative forms of treatment are available?
11.00 Lou Grant: Newspaper drama. Billie has to write a story about a professional football player down on his luck. She falls in love with him. 12.00 What the Papers Say: with Sean Usher. 12.15 Close.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 6.55 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Chesham. 9.20 The Living World. 10.00 News. 10.02 Policing the BBC: the SPG. 10.05 Morning Story. 10.10 News. 10.15 Analysis. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 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